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Poetry.

ALL FOR GOLD.

They'll robe me in my bridal gown,
Ah me, ah me!
They'll robe in my bridal gown.
The orange buds will be my crown,
The white veil will go floating down,
And I shall hear the splendor meet,
And wish it were my winding sheet,
Ah me, ah me!

They'll twine white gems about my neck,
Ah me, ah me!
They'll twine white gems about my neck,
And I shall give no sign, no check,
But well enough, I, too, shall reck,
That dewy pearls are for my tears,
The deadly opals for my fears,
Ah me, ah me!

They'll lay my prayer book in my hand,
Ah me, ah me!
They'll lay my prayer book in my hand,
While I shall calm and stately stand,
And hear the organ pealing grand,
And I shall neither faint o fall,
But live and smile on through it all,
Ah me, ah me!

They'll lead me to the altar rail,
Ah me, ah me!
They'll lead me to the altar rail,
And my false lips will never fail,
Nor my false heart will never quail,
As I breathe o'er those words of old,
And sell myself for love of gold,
Ah me, ah me!

—*Boston Traveller.*

QUITS.

Miss May and myself had been sitting
In the sofa-for-two-settee-chair;
She was busy with "tatting," or "knitting,"
Or some such device of the fair.
I had tried to supply conversation,
But the warmth of my manner was feigned,
For our previous tender relation
Now was strained.

We were both in an awkward position,
We'd neither been lovers nor friends,
And our state had defied definition
(It usually does till it ends);
But the cratwhile diaphenous fetter
Had grown to be irksome, and so
I longed to be free, and 'twas better
She should know.

But before I could speak she was saying
The words that my trouble assuaged,
While blushes her cheeks were displaying,
She said she was (nately) engaged.
I detected a slight exultation
In the silence that followed her sigh,
So I said with no little elation,
"So am I."

—*Mail and Express.*

Our Story Teller.

THAT GASPIPE.

When I was first married, I was not as well off as I am now. Eliza and I were obliged to live in apartments.

The mansion in which we sought refuge was kept by a Mrs. Smith, and we arrived of her establishment one evening just in time for dinner.

A Mrs. Marvin and her daughter occupied the first floor; I was to occupy the next floor, and a Mr. William Graham the back room on the top floor.

It did not require a very sharp pair of eyes to discover that Mr. Will Graham was in love with Miss Emily Marvin. Eliza and I both understood it before many days.

One day, when I came home a little earlier than usual, Eliza said to me: "Ted, I think there is something very mysterious about Miss Emily."

"What is it?" I asked.

"Why, she is always so preoccupied. I spoke to her to-day and she answered me in such a way that I felt sure she didn't know in the least what I had said. Then she is always so busy! Our landlady asked her to go out for a little walk to-day, by way of recreation, and she made some hurried excuse, saying she couldn't go anywhere, she had so much to do."

The next night when I came home Eliza had a new story.

"Ted," she exclaimed, "I tell you I'm sure there's something very wrong about that poor girl."

"What now?" I inquired.

"Well," said Eliza, "I was going past their room to-day, when I heard a great noise. Somebody was scolding and somebody was crying. Then the door opened and the old lady came out. I happened to look into the room, and there sat Miss Emily at her writing desk. The tears were streaming down her cheeks, and her pen was going like wildfire. The room looked very queer. It was full of books, and newspapers, and magazines were lying all over the floor. I heard Miss Marvin talking to herself. What she said I couldn't tell. When I got up stairs I lay down for a nap. Presently I heard a queer noise. First I couldn't think what it was, but it seemed to come from the gaspipe. I listened again, and then it made up my mind that somebody was playing on the bracket below as if it were a piano. I've always said her actions were very strange, and Mrs. Smith says so too. Fancy it—quarreling with her mother, and writing like wildfire, talking to herself, and playing tunes on a gas bracket! I tell you, that's it, Ted. I tell you, Edward, that beautiful young girl with golden hair, great open blue eyes, is crazy, stark, staring crazy!"

As a matter of course I paid no attention to what I felt certain was Eliza's nonsense about Miss Emily's mind being out of order. But one evening I went hurriedly up to dress. I had left my boots with Will Graham, who lives with his mother at the table and disappear upstairs. The moment I got into the room I heard a most peculiar noise. What on earth was it? It sounded like, "Tick—tick—tick—tick—tick—tick—tick—tick," and it came from the gaspipe. "Oho," thought I, "there's Eliza's notion. She did hear something after all. Somebody is knocking on the gas fixture." "Playing a tune," Eliza called it. Then all of a sudden a thought came over me. "Phew!" I gasped "It's so—it's so, just as sure as you're born!"

Now I must tell you that among my earlier experiences in this life I was once a telegraph operator. I didn't work at the business long, and I was extremely stupid at it; but I did learn the sounds. I knew them all, dots and dashes, just the horrid tick and succession of ticks and spaces between the ticks that are equivalent to the letters of the alphabet; and here I heard them again. Yes, this was it. I saw through the whole business at once, and as I did so I just lay down on the bed and laughed until I was afraid I'd have every button off my waistcoat.

Some one has told me once that Will Graham was a telegraph operator. He had evidently taught Miss Emily the art, and here they were communicating with each other in the most satisfactory fashion, while everybody imagined that they were conducting themselves like perfect strangers. Oh dear! oh dear! how I did laugh! Then I waited patiently to hear what was being said. It was a kind of eavesdropping, certainly, but how could I help it? The conversation I had happened upon ran as follows:

"How are you this evening?"

"Awfully tired. And you?"

"I'm tired, too. Mamma has been particularly exasperating."

"Has she? Am I never to have a talk with you again?"

"I don't know. Keep up your spirits."

"I will; but it's dreadfully trying."

"I think somebody's coming."

"Oh dear!"

I heard a door open and shut, and I knew that somebody entered the room below. Conversation by way of the gas pipe had ceased—for the occasion at least.

I can't tell you how many of those conversations I listened to. Every time that mysterious "tick, tick, tick, tick," would begin, I couldn't help pricking up my ears. And oh! the sweet things I did hear! One phrase that continually palpitated down the gas pipe was, "Emily, you are perfectly lovely."

The reply generally was: "Now, Will, don't be silly."

Instead of producing any effect this usually brought out such sentiment as "I never saw you look so pretty as you did at dinner."

"Don't be foolish."

"I will; I can't help it. If any other fellow gets you I shall die."

"Don't talk nonsense. No other fellow ever will."

"Tell me you love me."

"I won't."

After this, silence would generally ensue.

Well, matters were going along in this fashion when one day I began to think that the lovers were giving a new turn to their conversations. Was anything going to happen? Two or three things were said that I didn't understand. One day I heard Miss Emily say to Will:

"There's no use; I have got to do it."

"What?"

"Kill her."

"All right."

"But I hate to; and I can't think how."

"Shoot her."

"Nonsense!"

At this point Eliza came into the room, and she made such a noise that I couldn't hear anything more. But not long afterwards there were more serious communications.

"Dear, dear Will."

"What is it?"

"I won't love you if you won't help me."

"I will help you—with all my might."

"Then tell me what is a good way to kill an old woman?"

"Arsenic."

"That won't do at all."

"Blow her up with gunpowder."

"Nonsense! You don't help me one bit."

"I'll die for you."

"I don't want you to die. I want her to die, and I don't know how to kill her."

"Well, kill her somehow, or she'll be the death of both of us. Do wear your blue dress to-morrow—you do look so pretty in it."

"Be still."

"Night after night this thing went on. I saw the young couple every day. Miss Emily still looked like an angel: and as for Will Graham, he seemed honest enough to be a parson.

How could these two innocent-looking young people be depraved enough to plot the murder of a fellow-being in such a heartless manner? And who could the fellow-being be—who but the poor old lady to whom Miss Emily owed her being? I really began to pity the poor old soul. She was nearly 50, ugly and ill-tempered. But what an awful fate—to live daily and hourly, to sleep in the same room with the wretched girl, her own daughter, who was plotting with her lover how to thrust her out of life.

Well, at last matters came to a crisis. It was one summer's night. I had worked hard all day and was terribly worn out and nervous. I came home; had a chill or something. Anyway, Eliza allowed me only a light dinner and made me go to bed early. During the evening the house was very quiet; the gaspipe especially was silent as the grave. I fancy I must have fallen asleep, for I remember nothing between Eliza's coming up-stairs about 10 o'clock and being awakened shortly before midnight by a sound, coming, of course, from the gaspipe. Of late, you see, I had got so nervous over it that the slightest sound from it woke me instantly.

I listened intently. Whether it was my weak condition or a presentiment, I don't know, but I felt sure at once that something dreadful was coming. It did.

"I've made up mind, Will"—from below.

"Well, what to do?"

"Just as you said. Shooting's the best. She'll die instantly, you know, and I won't have any long farewells to go through. I don't feel up to such a thing—have never had any practice in just that line."

Horrible girl! I thought. People don't get much practice at murdering their mothers.

"I'm going to do it, now, too. I've dallied over it a dreadful while, and I'm going to have it over by midnight. Then I'll breathe more freely. There'll be nothing left but the marriage, and after that I can rest."

Was she a fiend? a demon? Apparently every bone in me.

"All right; go at it." This from above. "Do it up brown. I'll help you spend the money."

I could stand it no longer. "Eliza!" I shrieked, "there's murder! murder! murder! going on in this house. Get up! get up!"

I simply flew up. In two seconds I had on a pair of trousers and a coat. Eliza tried to hold me, but I flung her off. There was no time to be lost. I expected the sound of the pistol before I could get down stairs.

I went down three steps at a time. On my way I met a party of people coming from the front room, where they had been playing whist.

"Mr. Jones!" shrieked our landlady, seeing my excited face.

"Madam," I cried, "there is murder going on in your house. Come at once—come! To the rescue, I command you!"

With the whole house following, I rushed to the door of Miss Marvin's room. I flung my whole strength against the wood. A series of shrieks came from within.

"It's locked! it's locked! it's locked!" I cried.

By this time I had succeeded in convincing somebody that some foul deed was under way, for the servants came rushing up. One had the fire tongs, the other had seized a decanter, which she had evidently intended to use as a bludgeon.

Bent on saying that poor old lady from a dreadful death at her daughter's hands, I threw my whole strength against that door. There was a straining of the wood, a bursting of the latch, the door gave way, and there we stood in the midst of the room. I gave one spring toward the murderess and pinioned her in my arms.

What happened next? Why, that miserable wretch, Will Graham, actually threatened to have me arrested for assaulting his promised wife. Think of it—when I knew I was stopping a terrible crime.

The murder wasn't anything. Miss Emily was one of your precious literary people—writing a nasty story with a murder in it. She and Will Graham had been engaged for three years. He usually helped her out with are plots. Just now there was a family row because Will wouldn't take the old lady's money to go into business with. Will said he wouldn't risk impoverishing her. The old lady got provoked. She was tired of seeing Will nothing but a telegraph clerk, so she said they shouldn't speak to each other until he came to his senses and went into something for himself.

"But how did Miss Emily come to understand telegraphy?"

"Why, she had been an operator herself. She didn't like it, and found writing, literature—bah!—paid her better. So she went at it, and, as I afterwards learned, she really made a good thing of it."

Little Johnny Goes to Bat.

Scene—Tea-party—Mr. Ora Torr, the new minister, had just arrived and was being introduced to the guests. Little Johnny was an interested spectator, and, as soon as an opportunity presented itself, he opened fire:

"Why, Mr. Torr, I didn't know you were the new minister. I thought you were a soldier. I didn't know your name was Mr. Torr, either."

"What made you think I was a soldier, little one?" asked the minister, pleasantly.

"Oh, you were passing one day, and mamma said to papa: 'There goes General Nuisance,' and papa said: 'Humbug, you mean,' and so I thought—"

But he was hustled out of the room instanter, and, as the silence was broken an instant later by a sound as of the combined wailing of a banshee and the beating of a carpet, it was noticed that the minister seemed to experience intense satisfaction.

She Silenced Him, at Any Rate.

The following conversation, heard by a reporter on the street last night, is suggestive:

"Are you still tugging away at those new gloves of yours?"

"Yes, dear."

"You know it disgusts me to see you walking through the streets making your toilet."

"Does it, dear?"

"Why, do you know that I would just as soon see you pulling on your—stockings in the streets as your gloves?"

"Most men would," was all she said, and he had nothing else to say.

An Astonished Virginian.

A rather wild sample of one of the First Families of Virginia, a Mr. Randolph by name, invited an Austin young lady, Miss Esmeralda Longcoffin, to take a buggy ride with him.

"I prefer not," she replied

"You object to riding out with me? What is your objection?" he asked in astonishment.

"My uncle has forbidden me to do so, Mr. Randolph. He says you are no gentleman."

"Well, Miss Longcoffin, if swearing a little, drinking a little and gambling a little does not constitute me a gentleman, then your uncle don't know a gentleman when he sees one."—*Texas Siftings.*

His Griefs Could Swim.

A man was arrested yesterday for drunkenness and taken before a magistrate, who said:

"Why do you fill yourself up in this manner?"

"To drown my griefs," replied the prisoner.

"And do you succeed?"

"Alas! no, monsieur. I find that they can swim!"—*Pittsburg Chronicle.*

COURTED BY A CORPSE.

Words of Affection Supposed to Have Come from a Dead Man's Lips.

Not a great while since there died in San Francisco a gentleman who was on a visit to this coast from the East. He was apparently a person who commanded sufficient means for all the ordinary purposes of life, but when he died only a small sum of money was found in his possession. His relatives were communicated with, and instructions came from his wife to have the body embalmed, preparatory to shipment to his old home in the East. This was done, and the bill, representing rather a steep figure, forwarded to the grieving widow. The sum so far exceeded her expectations that she indignantly refused to pay it, and the corpse was left on the hands of the undertaker. This gentleman had read somewhere that in a similar case down in Arizona the conductor of funerals had utilized the corpse left on his hands as an advertisement for his trade. Acting upon this suggestion, he had the cadaver in question taken from the neat metallic coffin to which it had been fitted, and, dressed up in a Prince Albert suit, adjusted to a sitting position in an arm chair in the back parlor of the establishment.

So perfectly had the embalming been accomplished that with the exception of the grayish pallor which overspread the face, the dead man looked as natural as life. This circumstance suggested to an ingenious young man connected with the undertaking establishment the idea of utilizing the corpse for entertaining visitors. To this end the chair in which it sat was placed against a thin partition, which had been previously pierced for the reception of a speaking tube. This was so arranged that the tube rested against the coat collar of the corpse. By speaking through from the other side of the partition, in the dim light of the back parlor, to the casual observer it appeared as if the corpse was talking.

Fortunately, however, the upright position and graceful poise of the body of this interesting person led all who looked upon it to conclude that it was only a middle-aged gentleman sitting there at his ease. But this was not all. The undertaker's ingenious clerk had attached to the right arm of the corpse the wires of a galvanic battery, and by the proper manipulation of the instrument he could cause the arm to rise or fall or gently curve around any object near it.

One day a spinster lady of uncertain age came into the parlor to make some inquiries relative to a prospective funeral. As she entered, the corpse, which she supposed to be a well-dressed visitor, gracefully bowing, invited her to take a seat at his side, where a vacant chair was ready for her service.

"Take a seat, miss, sit here (indicating the chair.) I am charmed to have the pleasure of seeing in this desolate apartment a lady of such fascinations."

"You are very polite, I am sure," murmured the flattered fair one.

"I make it a point, my dear," continued the corpse, "to note every beautiful face that comes into this room. You must know that I remain here—all the time, night and day, and my only happiness consists in receiving and entertaining the occasional visitors.

"You see, my dear, to a lonely man like myself, condemned to sit day after day in his darkened chamber, such a lovely vision as yourself comes to me like a gleam of sunlight. I trace in your fair face some of the sweetest memories of my youth, when in long by-gone years I loved and was beloved in return. When you entered this dreary place a moment ago you seemed to bring me a vision of the beautiful world which lies beyond the threshold I am never allowed to pass, and my withered heart leaned to you with an emotion of delight."

It must not be supposed that the lady listened to these bold words without sweet and tender reflections upon her unselfishness in devoting herself to, She was not very old, but she had wanted a husband longer than she cared to acknowledge, and words like these naturally raised a flood of most agreeable thoughts. Nevertheless, she deprecated the dead man's enthusiasm, and insisted that he was speaking unreasonably. Still, she turned upon him a tender glance which would have had anything but a chilling effect upon the ardor of a veritable wooer. It seemed to send fire through the veins of the dead man. The arm tightened around her waist. His words grew musical and soft.

"I see in you," continued the corpse, "the embodiment of all my dreams of bliss. If I only had your sweet companionship in this desolate room its gloom would take the hue of radiant sunshine, and I should be content to sit here forever crowned by your smiles and your laddened by the tender glance of your eye."

"Oh, sir," sighed the lady.

"Can it be possible," continued the enraptured dead man, "that you reciprocate my passion, that you will be mine?"

The fair head was gently inclined to the shoulder of the corpse when the undertaker entered. The lady screamed. The corpse sat upright.

"Oh, sir," gasped the fair one, "this gentleman has been talking so very strangely."

"Talking!" shouted the undertaker. "Why you must be mad. How can a dead man talk?"

"Dead!" screamed the lady.

"Why, yes, look at him. Lord help you! You have been courted by a corpse."

The astonished spinster cast one fond despairing look at the ashen face of her wooer, and flinging her arms aloft in despair, she fainted quickly. "Heavens! Does my beauty charm the dead?" and fainted away. *Alta California.*

Willing to Oblige.

"Yes," said the railway agent, "our road transported 450,000 hogs last year, not including Chicago drummers."

"Look here," said a commercial tourist who was present, "I object to that statement."

"Which, to the figures? Well, I can show the books for it."

"No; not the figures, but your remark about the Chicago drummers."

"You are from Chicago, are you?"

"I am."

"You are a drummer, too, perhaps?"

"Yes, sir."

"Then, of course, I'll amend my remark, and say that we carried over 450,000 hogs last year, including Chicago drummers."

Somewhat Discouraging.

A New York gentleman imagines that he has a great talent for painting. He has painted for many years, but with very little success. An old friend called at the would-be artist's studio, not long since, and said candidly:

"Why don't you stop spoiling canvas and wasting good paint?"

"I'm not discouraged," was the reply; "in a few years more I may eclipse even Raphael."

"Eclipse Raphael," sneered the candid old friend; "why, you are 40 years old at least, and nobody has bought one of your pictures yet. Don't you know that at your age Raphael had been dead five years?"—*Texas Siftings.*

Sweet Spirit Hear Her.

"Such a beautiful custom they have Southern France when one dies in th house hold," said Mrs. Cornerlots to Mrs Newrich. "Indeed!" replied Mrs. Newrich with audacity. "Yes; they at once open window in order that the esprit de corps may wing its way heavenward."

Had Become an Old Story.

Startling: He (rapturously)—"And now, that's all settled, darling, what kind of an engagement ring would you like?"

She—"Oh, gold this time, I hope, dearest. I'm quite sick of wearing imitation engagement rings." Tableau!—*Punch.*

So He Could Not Forget.

Wife—"What under the sun are you doing?" Husband—"Trying to tie this string around my finger." "Why, I did not ask you to do any errand." "No, this string is to remind me that I have nothing to remember to-day."

It Made a Difference.

"What is the size of that shoe?"

"That is a No. 2, madam."

"I thought so. It fits perfectly." The clerk looks again.

"Excuse me, madam; it is a 4."

"A 4! Dear me, it is too sizes too big. Take it right off."—*Chicago Tribune.*

Not In.

Visitor—"You say your mistress is not in!"

Fresh domestic—"She was in the sitting room a little while ago, but I can't find her now. I guess she saw you coming, put on her bonnet and skipped out the back way."

AN EXTREMELY INQUISITIVE AMERICAN.

His Visit to the Palace which Baron Rothschild was Building.

An American, sight-seeing in Europe, gives his mind to his work, which is to do the places of interest. In order to gratify his curiosity he sometimes disregards the proprieties and accosts the first man he meets it he thinks him capable of serving as a guide-book. One of these American tourists while in London heard of the famous palace which Baron Rothschild was building. He went to see it, and was fortunate enough to meet the master builder, who showed him over the building. After he had finished the inspection he addressed a portly old gentleman whom he saw watching the workmen with "Good morning, sir." The man bowed politely without speaking.

"I'm a stranger," the American continued, thinking he might be speaking to the contractor; "I've been looking over this building, and I should like to ask you for some information."

"I shall be happy to oblige you," said the old gentleman, and he told the American many interesting facts about the building.

"I suppose you have seen Rothschild, sir?" said the American.

"Which one?"

"The old cock."

"I see the old cock every day," answered the old man, eyeing the American.

"I should like to have a look at him. People say he is a gay old chap and lives high. I wish I had him in my power. I'd not let him up till he had shelled out a pile of his money."

The American rattled on, and the old gentleman laughed heartily. When there was a pause he remarked: "Baron Rothschild had to work for his money, and deserves to enjoy it."

"Maybe so," said the American, "but I reckon he did a heap of squeezing to get it."

The old man's face flushed as he said stiffly, "I never heard the honesty of the house called in question."

"Didn't you? Well, to tell the truth, neither have I. But I wouldn't be purprised if I'm right, after all."

The old man's face grew black, and he bit his lip, but he said nothing.

"People tell me," continued the American, "that the Rothschilds have made two fortunes. Now, I'd like to learn the way the thing was done."

"I can tell you," replied the old man, smiling. "People say the house of Rothschild made one fortune by being careful to mind their own business, and the other by letting that of others alone. Good morning, sir."

And the old gentleman left the American staring at him, and went to the other end of the building.

"Can you tell me the name of that old gentleman?" asked the American of a handsome young man who was looking at the building.

"That is Baron Rothschild."

"Then I've got myself into a scrape!" exclaimed the mortified American, and told the young man what had occurred.

"That was awkward," the young man remarked, after a hearty laugh.

"He's a crusty old chap; he's as cross as a bear," continued the vexed American.

"Oh, that is only his way; he is a kind-hearted man, but a little eccentric," said the young man.

"Do you know Baron Rothschild?" inquired the American.

"I have met him several times, and I have an appointment to wait on him to-day."

"Then I wish you'd say to him that I did not know to whom I was talking this morning, or I would not have said so much; and that he need not have been so huffish about it."

"I will do so; he will be the first to laugh at the adventure when he heart your explanation. Good morning."

Just then a workman passed, and the American asked him the name of the young gentleman.

"That was one of the younger Rothschilds," said the workman. The American was afraid to speak to a stranger for a week, for fear he might be a Rothschild. —*Youth's Companion.*

THEY NEVER STOP.

Why Some Married Men Grow Old Prematurely.

It is this kind of a wife that makes some men old and gray before their time.

"William," she says, after William is curled up under the blankets for nigh, "did you lock the front doors?"

"Yes," says William, briefly.

"You're sure you did?"

"Yes, sure."

"And you slipped the bolt, too?"

"Yes."

"You know you forcot it once, and it gave me such a turn when I found it out in the morning! I didn't get over it for a week. Why, there isn't much anybody'd want to steal, but I don't want the little we have taken, for I——"

"I tell you I attended to the doors."

"Well, I hope so, for goodness' sake. You attended to the basement doors?"

"Yes, I tell you."

"Because if you hadn't you or I, one or the other, would have to get up and attend to it now. I read to-day of——"

"I don't care what you read."

"It is said that a man down on B—— street forgot to——"

"I don't care if he did."

"And in the middle of the night a burglar walked right in and——"

"I don't believe it."

"I've a notion to get up and see if you have locked that door. You're sure?"

"How many times have I got to tell you that I did lock it?"

"Well, you thought you locked it that time when you left it unlocked."

"Will you be quiet?"

"I don't care, William, you know yourself how careless you are, and——"

"See here, Mary Jane, this has got to end right here."

But it doesn't end there; and it doesn't end for an hour, and William arises in the morning with the lines on his brow a little deeper, and the hopeless, desperate look still in his face.—*Tid-Bits.*

She Had Money and Nerve.

It was told of the wife of a far western senator, that while sitting in the parlor of a hotel, after having sent up her card to to the wife of another senator living at the hotel, she was attracted to a little group of ladies gathered about the diamond merchant, who had spread his wares on the piano for their inspection. She listened to their "ahs" and "ohs," and little screams of ecstatic admiration, and then crossed the room and joined the group. She handled the gems with an appearance of an indifference blended with the air of a connoisseur. The other ladies, wives of congressmen and government officials, stood back respectfully. Finally she picked up a great carbuncle pendant set in a double row of pearls and diamonds, and said:

"What do you value that at?"

"Seventeen hundred dollars," was the reply.

The lady opened her reticule, took out a check-book, made out her check for the amount, put the pendant in her pocket, and calmly resumed her chair. She paralyzed that group of ladies, and at the same time added another jewel to a collection which is already one of the richest owned by any American lady.

Very Singular.

Prof. Snore, the absent-minded professor of the University of Texas, recently put his foot in it again. It was at the Gubernatorial mansion at a reception. Meeting Miss Esmerelda Longcoffin, he said:

"Good evening, madame, is your husband here this evening?"

"Why, professor, don't you know that I am still single?" replied Esmerelda, blushing.

"Is that so? So you are still single. Then I suppose your husband is also single. Give him my regards when you meet him."

A Monster of a Man.

There were doing a little loving-making between acts.

Just as the curtain went up he called her his angel.

"Say," said a man in the next seat back, "couldn't you get your angel to wear her wings somewhere besides on her hat!"—*Chicago Tribune.*

Jess So—How Could He?

Hypochondriac—"I am feeling very blue this morning."

Doctor—"What's the matter?"

"Every time I feel my nose it hurts me."

"But you are not obliged to feel your nose."

"But how can I tell whether it hurts unless I feel it?"—*Texas Siftings.*

Our New Serial Story.

JOHN DUNCAN'S WIDOW.

BY D. R. LOCKE.

CHAPTER III.

THE SPRINGING OF A MINE.

Mary Duncan's life was not altogether pleasant. She had promised not to marry without her father's consent, but her father had not promised not to worry her with repeated, persistent appeals to marry the man of his choice, James Murdock. In vain she protested that the subject was distasteful to her; in vain she vowed that under no circumstances would she for a moment even consider it, he returned to it day after day, till she fairly dreaded to see him.

They were at breakfast one morning. Porter Leigh sat at the head of the table, arrayed in faultless linen, his face clean-shaved, his hair carefully arranged, and with all the attention to the detail of dress which had always characterized him. Opposite sat his daughter, clad in widow's weeds, but despite her sombre dress, more radiantly beautiful than ever, while by her side in a little high chair, her child—John Duncan's child—prattled glibly child-fashion, and with its little hands made sad work of cream-pitcher, sugar-bowl and whatever else it could reach.

Mary Duncan's eyes were red, and her face was paler than usual—her appearance showed that she had had trouble, and so recently that she had not recovered from the effects of it. There was a long silence, which the father finally broke.

"Have you decided, Mary, in the matter we discussed last evening?"

"Decided! I gave you my decision last evening, and if you remember, forbade you ever to recur to it again."

"I remember distinctly, but for your sake as well as mine, I must bring it up again. *You must*—"

"Must! This to me? But what must I do?"

"You must accept James Murdoch as your husband—you must do this, not only for your sake, but mine!"

"What personal interest—I mean in what way can this marriage—the very thought of which pains and shocks me—in what way can this be of any use to you?"

"Murdoch is rich and will be richer."

"Granted. But I have enough to suffice for all the reasonable wants of you and myself. John Duncan was not rich—but he left me, heaven forgive me! an income greater than will supply all our wants. What more do I want? What more do you want?"

"Want! What more do I want? Twenty years ago, Mary, when you were a child, I was forced out of public life. I had expensive habits—expensive tastes—I was a gentleman who could not bow and cringe and play the demagogue—I was not accessible to the masses by whose suffrages I held my place, and—well, I was forced to give up my position—give up my prospects in private life, but a life of what to me was worse than death. I lived thus for twenty years and fancied at the last of it that ambition was dead in me—that I could live and be satisfied if I had means enough to give me the little luxuries my nature craves, and without which I do not live at all. But when John Duncan's wealth came to us, the old ambitions revived. I felt that with one other element added, I could again—"

"Father!"

"Do not interrupt me. I felt that I could again take the place among men that my ability entitled me to; that I could again become a power, and, with the advantage of twenty years' seclusion and observation—without the entanglements of the exciting years that have just past, I could yet be what I hoped to be when life was young with me, and even more."

"And that element is—"

"A man of the people to bring me out. A man of influence, of brain, one who is in sympathy with the people of to-day—who knows them and has influence with them—one who can say to the people, 'Here is Porter Leigh, a man of experience, who has represented you properly and who can do it again, and will, if you desire it.' I must have a man who can manipulate caucuses—who can influence voters—who, in short, is in the current out of which I dropped many years ago, and into which I cannot again get without assistance. My errors of twenty years ago are forgotten—the good I did, if it is not remembered, I can bring to the surface easily."

"And that man, whom you must have, is—"

* * * * * * *

"James Murdoch. He has money—he has influence. He could take the place I covet, if he would, but he prefers private life and financial pursuits to office and its attendant responsibilities. But he is not only willing, but anxious that I should take the field again, and allied with him, in this election there is nothing that cannot be done. Mary, you must accept him as your husband. To me it is everything, and through me everything to you and—your child. Do not say no—do not question or argue. This must be."

Mary Duncan heard her father through. The old man was terribly excited and terribly in earnest. He had, or believed he had, in his hands the realization of the dreams of the twenty years of enforced abstinence from public life, and to disappoint him now would be a cruel blow. But she felt she owed a duty to herself.

"Father," she said, with her eyes filled with tears, "God knows that I am willing to make any sacrifice, almost, for you—but this. I—"

The old man saw a denial in her voice and manner.

"Mary, be careful what you say. If you cannot now do as I would have you, say nothing. Do not, as you care for me, say you will not do this thing. My life depends upon it."

"Life or no life—for you, even, I will not. Oh, father, you know not what you ask me to do. I hate this man—I loathe him, his presence is an affliction to me. To wed him were to do worse than die. Ask me anything but this. Nay, be not upset yet. It is well that we now talk plainly. You have my promise not to marry without your approval—that is as much as I will yield. I will not marry save as I choose. If father and child must differ, this is the point—"

Her voice was no longer a wail, but it swelled into firmness and decision.

"I owe something to the author of my existence—I owe something to myself. I have paid you the debt I owe you."

And without giving him time to reply, she rose from the table and rushed from the apartment.

This interview resulted precisely as Porter Leigh had expected. He knew the woman's immovable disposition—he knew and realized the intensity of the dislike she felt for the man he preferred for her.

But he did not give up his idea nevertheless. He put on his overcoat and his hat, and humming a tune to himself, as though he had not been thwarted at all, went to the office of James Murdoch. He walked quietly into the inner office—Mr. Murdoch's private room—in a way that implied familiarity, and was followed by Murdoch.

"The girl is foolishly perverse, Murdoch," said the old man, after a moment's silence.

"I had supposed that you had influence enough over her to bring her to your wishes."

"She I have not. She—I beg your pardon—dislikes you, and will not hear to any proposition that looks to an alliance with you. I know precisely what is the matter with her—she is in love with Lester, and Lester is in love with her, and they both know it."

"Consequently, Mr. Leigh, my dreams of a life with the woman I love, and your dream of life consonant with your ideas of happiness, are both to blasted by the whim of a woman who will not see what is to her and your interest."

"Yes, I wish some one would kill him."

"We don't do that kind of a thing now-a-days. Mind does what brute force used to do. Instead of the stiletto, we now use the—"

He was about to say "pen," but he checked himself. And then he sat for several minutes in deep thought. His eyebrows were drawn down; his face assumed a look so anxious as to make it almost haggard. Mr. Leigh saw that some terrible emotion was stirring the nature of the man from its lower depths, and he wondered what was coming. At last, with an effort that drove all the blood from his face, Murdoch resumed:

"It matters little to me," he said, speaking slowly and deliberately, "what she says or how she feels now. She will wed me, and will do it with her own free will and consent. I do not care for your assistance, even."

"What?"

"I mean just what I say. She will consent to marry me—will be anxious to marry me—and this without your interference or urging."

"And pray, Mr. James Murdoch, how is this change in my daughter to be brought about? How is this miracle to be accomplished?"

Murdoch rose to his feet. His face was as pale as marble, but his thin lip was drawn tightly over his teeth. Laying his hand on the shoulder of the sitting man he hissed into his ear:

"By simple means enough. By simply informing her that she, her child and you, are beggars—that you are to-day eating my bread—that you ate my bread yesterday and the day before—that I really own the roof that covers you, and the real estate from the rents of which you live. In short—"

"It is a lie, James Murdoch! John Duncan left his estate by will to his widow, my daughter. It is a lie! I say"

And the old man rose livid with passion and trembling with fear.

Murdoch said not a word, but touched a bell on the table.

Markley appeared.

"Bring in," said he, "the package of papers marked 'Duncan.'"

A moment elapsed, and a package was handed in. Markley retiring immediately. Murdock fixing the old man with his eye, resumed.

"It is a short story, Mr. Leigh—a very short story. John Duncan was—though no one in Maitland but myself knew it—a wild and reckless speculator."

"John Duncan!"

"Yes, John Duncan. I knew it would surprise you, but it is the truth. He speculated in stocks and securities of all kinds, and speculated wildly and blindly. He was as thorough a gambler at heart as ever lived, and his passion found gratification in the most dangerous of all gambling—stocks and securities. He was the victim of Wall Street operators, who found in the man's credulity and innocence, a never-failing source of profit. He has been operating in this way for years. A dozen times I saved him from ruin by saving him after his severe losses, but his last venture was a final one. It involved his estate irretrievably—it was for an amount quite equal to the value of his assets. Mr. Leigh, I advanced the money necessary to save him from a formal failure, and, for security I hold his notes for more than enough to cover all his effects. In short, I hold his paper for quite all that his estate is worth."

"Why was this not made public before? Why has this been kept concealed till now?"

"Because the transaction occurred just before poor Duncan's last illness; indeed, I doubt that the misfortune so weighed upon him as to produce the illness that finally killed him. Of course, while he was on his bed, I could not add to his troubles by making his misfortunes public. I am possessed of sensibility Mr. Leigh. Then after his death, I—well, as I intended to marry his widow, whom I knew would be his sole heir, I did not care to make it public till that should be decided. Were Mary Duncan my wife, I could well afford to burn these papers, for our interest in them would be one. But—"

"If she does not become your wife, what then."

"I was about to state the alternative, Mr. Leigh. I should take the legal steps to enforce my claim against his estate. I should turn Mary Duncan and John Duncan's child into the street, and you after them. Do you understand me, Porter Leigh? Do you comprehend the power I have in these notes over that woman and you? I have dangled after her five years—I dangle no longer. I shall assert my power. She shall marry me, or starve."

Porter Leigh staggered out of the door like a drunken man. James Murdoch, pale with excitement, muttered to himself as he stood alone, "I am in it now, and sink or swim, must carry it through. But it is an ugly thing to do."

* * * * * * *

Abel Markley, paler than Murdoch, glided away from the door as Porter Leigh's hand passed from the latch on the other side. As he sat on his stool even James Murdoch detected no sign of emotion. But he muttered to himself. "It is as I supposed. But, Mr. James Murdoch, I hold the key to the position. I have knowledge that you little dream of. You may marry Mary Duncan, and you may end in a penitentiary."

CHAPTER IV.

FATHER, DAUGHTER AND LOVER.

Porter Leigh went to his home, or rather his daughter's home, in a stunned, dazed condition of mind. The revelation made to him by Murdoch, was a dashing of all his hopes, and a complete reversal of all his plans.

As it was before, he had taken high grounds with the banker. Relying on the influence his daughter had over him, he had treated him in a patronizing manner, for without his own influence over the daughter Murdoch's chances were nothing. But now the situation was reversed. James Murdoch held in his hands the power to compel the daughter to marry him, if anything would do it; and what was more, in case he failed to marry Mary, it left him, Porter Leigh, a mere pensioner upon his bounty, a mere dependent upon his will for the bread he should eat and the clothes he should wear.

Was the statement of Murdoch true? It could not be. John Duncan was a man who never speculated; there was not in him a single one of the elements of a speculator. But suppose it were not true? Suppose it to be a fraud? Suppose that it was a scheme devised and so far executed by Murdoch, for the purpose of forcing his daughter to accede to his wishes? What then? What could he do about it? Here was a shrewd man—a man of nerve and will—a man who could not be frightened or turned from his path; a man of high standing and wealth, with this story in his mouth. He, Porter Leigh, had the power to make it seem true.

He arrived at his house in a condition of mind which cannot be described. He sent for his daughter.

"Mary, we are ruined!"

"In what way?"

"John Duncan had no estate to leave; that is, his property was so encumbered that he cannot possibly be made to realize enough to pay the debts against it. We are beggars."

"Beggars! My husband's estate involved? It is impossible!"

"It is true."

"Who is the creditor? Who holds these claims?"

"James Murdoch. He showed me the notes. Mary, this is no nightmare; would to God that it were. It is a stern, hard reality. Murdoch holds in his hands the power to turn you, your child, and me, into the street. And, he will do it."

"He will not do it, he cannot do it, he shall not do it! This is a fraud that he has devised, to compel me to marry him. Were I alone in the world I would not care a straw. But I have my babe to care for, I have you to care for, and I will not consent to lose the property you tell me all. If"

"Marry Murdoch? Oh, Mary, you have saved us."

"Marry Murdoch? No! I shall fight Murdoch. I shall expose this fraud, and not only hold my own, but crush him. Now that me all that he said—and all that you saw—be sure that you tell me all. If this is—God forgive me for the suspicion—if this is a plan arranged by you to compel me to marry the man, I tell you, once for all, that I would die sooner. If it is his plan alone, you must join me in combating him, for without John Duncan's property your hopes of a pleasant life are gone. Now tell me all, and conceal nothing."

And Porter Leigh, thoroughly alarmed and yielding entirely to the superior will of his daughter, told her the whole dismal story. At its conclusion she remarked quietly:

"Call Susan. I will write a note to Charles Lester."

"To Charles Lester?"

"Yes, to Charles Lester. I cannot marry him without your consent, but I can make him my attorney, I presume."

"Mary you will ruin us. Murdoch's position is unassailable. Let us, I beg you, make terms with him. Yield to me in this. Marry him, and avoid this great trouble."

"

Recent Literature.

The many lovers of Thoreau will welcome another book, which shows his inner life in its beauty and purity as does the one entitled "Winter," made up of extracts from his journal, edited by H. G. O Blake, and published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston. His happy way of expressing original thoughts is very marked in these pages, as is also his strongest aspiration "to solve some of the problems of life not only theoretically but practically." It is a pleasant book to have lying upon the library table, to take up when a few moments of leisure come and read a few chapters. The influence could not fail to be a pure and sweet one. Price, $1.50.

A lovely holiday book from the same publishers is "Bird-Talk, A Calendar of the Orchard and Wildwood," by Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney. It is made up of illustrated poems, suited to each month of the year, about the birds that are seen at that especial season. For instance, for January is a song about the little chickadees. February talks about jays and crows, and so on through the twelve months. It is a dainty volume. Price $1.

"Dilly and the Captain," by Margaret Sidney, comes from D. Lothrop & Co., Boston. It is a jolly story of a little girl and her playfellow, who, tired of being continually reminded that "children should be seen and not heard," set off on a bicycle and tricycle tour to find a place where girls and boys can find out things without asking questions. Make their experiences with the "Spider-and-Black-Cat Man," with the girl who borrowed the tricycle and sold it for a string of yellow beads which she didn't get, with Jocko, the umbrella destroyer, and with Mother Peggy and her family, are all fascinatingly told, and the only fault that young readers will find with the book is that it isn't long enough of it. It is well illustrated and very prettily bound.

From the same publisher comes "Gladys," by Mary Greenleaf Darling. It is from the pen of a new author, and is a story pure and wholesome, and full of passages that show the author to have thought deeply and considered wisely concerning certain social matters. The main action of the story takes place in Boston, the home of the heroine, Gladys Amory, although incidental chapters are laid at Bar Harbor, and also at Memphis, during the terrible yellow fever year of 1878. The story—which has a very strong local flavor, abounding as it does with references to well-known Boston names and localities—is intense in its interest, and the writer shows a power that promises even better work in the future. Price $1.25.

A book which all girls should read is the one by Louisa M. Alcott, entitled "A Garland for Girls," and published by Roberts Brothers, Boston. The stories gathered here, were written, the author says for her own amusement during a period of enforced seclusion, and the titles were suggested by the flowers that were her solace and inspiration. Each story is full of entertainment, and underneath the plot runs a moral which cannot fail to touch the heart of the reader. It is a book like all others of Miss Alcott's writing to be commended to young people. Price $1.25.

Part seventh in the republished Century War Papers contains the conclusion of Gen. Beauregard's paper on "The Campaign of Shiloh," and papers relating to the same battle by Gens. Lew Wallace and Thomas Jordan and Cols. S. H. Lockett and A. R. Chisholm; "The Union and Confederate Navies," by Prof. J. R. Soley; "Early Coast Operations in North Carolina," by Gen. Rush C. Hawkins; "The Burnside Expedition," by Gen. A. E. Burnside; and the first part of a paper on "Du Pont and the Port Royal Expedition," by Admiral Ammen. Considerable new and important matter is being introduced as the republication progresses, while of the fifty cuts in this part, thirty-eight are now printed for the first time. For sale only by subscription.

"Old New England Days" is a story by Sophie M. Damon, which, she says, is of true life. It is a picure of "rural occurrences in New England from 1808 to 1828." The scene is laid in Montville, Vermont, and the story is of a large family of several daughters, with great maidenhood and womanhood in an old fashioned New England farmhouse. There are not enough incidents in the story to make it interesting as a novel, and the character studies are not careful enough to make them valuable as portraits from life. But the writer's aim is high and the moral tone of the book is sustained. Published by Cupple & Hurd, Boston. Price $1.25.

From the same publishers comes "Matthew Galbraith Perry, A Typical Naval Officer," by William Elliot Griffis, author of "The Mikado's Empire," "Corea, the Hermit Nation," etc. The author writes with enthusiasm heightened by his admiration of the man, who, he considers, is even a greater hero than his elder brother of Lake Erie fame. His connection with the treaty with Japan has made his name revered in that country, and this biography was written, the author says, "to satisfy the earnest desire of the Japanese to know more of the man so profoundly influenced their natural history." It is a very interesting narrative from beginning to end, and will contribute much to a better understanding of a fine character. Price, $2.00.

Cupples & Hurd reprint from the tenth London edition the paper entitled "Diet in Relation to Age and Activity," originally contributed by Sir Henry Thompson to the Nineteenth Century. His remarks on the common impression, that increase of portliness with increase of years is a sign of healthy old age, should be read by all stout, middle-aged gentlemen. The typical man of 80 or 90 years, still retaining a respectable amount of energy of body and mind, is, he insists, lean and spare, and lives on slender rations.

"Bledisloe, or Aunt Pen's American Nieces," is called an international story, the author of which is Ada M. Trotter and the publishers, Cupple & Hurd, Boston. The story introduces the heroine in the opening chapter, the scene being laid upon the Severn in England. She is influenced by love for her father to promise to marry a rich nobleman old enough to be her grandsire. Gladys Beresford is another character full of live womanly qualities, who comes from America with her cousin to look after the estate left to her by her father. The story is very well told and the interest maintained to the last. Price, $1.50.

The same publishers issue an edition of a popular book entitled "The Last Von Reckenburg" by Louise von Francois, which has already reached its third edition in German. The translation was made by J. M. Percival and is a very good one. It is historical in character or at least it has a back-ground of history which gives a life-like look to the characters in the story. There is a good deal of intensity, considerable pathos, and the reader will be greatly interested. Price $1.50.

Literary Notes.

The 40th thousand of Mrs. Burnett's "Little Lord Fauntleroy" is now on the press.

Max O'Bell has a book on Scotchmen and their ways, in press in Paris, to be called "L'Ami Macdonald."

Paul Morse Richards has been appointed publisher of the New York *Observer*.

Gen. Sheridan is engaged upon a book of reminiscences, in which he will treat of his personal history and his war experience.

"Yone Santo" is the name of the Japanese girl—heroine of the serial story which Mr. F. H. House has contributed to the *Atlantic Monthly*. The story will bear her name.

The third volume of Gen. Cluseret's Memoirs bringing his story down to the end of the Second Empire, has just been issued in London.

A "Biographical Dictionary of the Stage," including the names of all English-speaking actors and actresses, is in course of preparation in England. The first volume is to be dedicated to Henry Irving.

Mrs. F. H. Burnett's new story, begins in Christmas number of *St. Nicholas*. It is called "Sara Crewe," and it depicts the life of a little girl in a boarding-school in London.

The Rev. Dr. A. P. Peabody has written a volume of "Personal Reminiscences," relating chiefly to Harvard, as it was 60 years ago, which will be published soon after the holidays.

It is reported that "A Choice of Chance," a novel recently published, is avowedly written by Miss De Morgan, author of "The Necklace of Princess Fioramonde," etc.

M. Renan's "History of the People of Israel" is being translated into English by Mr. C. B. Pitman, and will be published shortly by Messrs. Chapman & Hall.

T. B. Peterson & Bros. have just published "Who Cares? episodes in the life of Mary Campbell," by Mrs. Harriet N. K. Goff, with an introduction by Rev. Theodore L. Cuyler.

Mr. Whittier, Mr. Holmes and Mr. Aldrich are all expected to publish poems in *The Atlantic* next year. We rejoice to see that Mr. Aldrich is breaking his unnecessarily modest rule of excluding his own verse from the pages of his own delightful magazine.

The auction sale of Mr. Beecher's books, paintings, engravings, and bric-a-brac, it is estimated, realized in the neighborhood of $35,000. The trade was largely represented at the sale of the books.

A. Bronson Alcott celebrated his 88th birthday on Tuesday, November 29, and it finds him stronger and better than for many months past. The birthday of his daughter, Louise M. Alcott, falls on the same day.

Mrs. Annie Jenness Miller's magazine, *Dress*, which has attained so wide a popularity, will be known the coming year under the name "Esthetics." Great improvements are promised with the change of title.

THE LITTLE FOLKS.

Further Report of heir Quaint Speeches.

Little Isabel H. has been very much disturbed by the many thunder storms which have visited us this summer. One unusually severe prompted the following question:

"Mamma, does God keep a great big bear up in Heaven to growl for him?"

Her little brother Ralph is also very much afraid of thunder. An unusually loud clap brought him indoors one day with a very sober face. On being asked what the matter was, he replied:

"I don't know, but I thought I heard the sky break."

A little motherless girl of 5 years, who was left in my care four years in New Orleans, was one Sabbath morning busy over her doll's wardrobe, when I reproved her by saying:

"Lily, God is not pleased while you play with your doll to day."

She looked seriously into my face, and said: "Mrs. R——, God has nothing to do with me. Jesus takes care of little children!"

A small boy, also in my care, was found one Sunday playing steam cars with his blocks, etc. It was in Malden, prior to the advent of horse cars. I made a similar remark to the one above, and his reply was, in part: innocence—

"Does God keep 'em all up there to hisself to-day?"

This story sounds a little bit irreverent, but as it was told by a highly esteemed clergyman, and in Sunday school, too, it is presumably tellable in print. A littlegirl, walking in the Public Garden on Sunday with her mother, began to play upon the grass, and was instantly restrained, to her chargrin.

"Why can't I run on the grass, mamma?" she exclaimed.

"Because the policeman will make you go off if you do. Don't you see the policeman over there? Besides, it is Sunday, and God doesn't want you to play."

"Oh, dear," said the little girl, "if it wasn't for the policemans, and God, what nice times we would have."

Man wants but little here below,
But wants that little strong.

This is especially true of a purge. The average man or woman does not precisely hanker for it, as a rule, but when taken, wishes it to be prompt, sure and effective. Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets leave nothing to be desired in point of efficacy, and yet their action is totally free from any unpleasant symptoms, or disagreeable after-effects. Purely vegetable, perfectly harmless.

SOMETHING ABOUT THE BALSA.

Rear Admiral Ammen's Proposed Craft for Rescuing Shipwrecked Tars.

The balsa is the name of a device or contrivance which Rear Admiral Ammen has proposed to the secretary of the Navy for the rescue of passengers from shipwreck. The word balsa is the name of a rude sort of raft used with great success and managed with singular skill by the coastwise people of the Pacific shores of the Colombian Republic and along the coasts of Ecuador and Peru.

Their balsas are made of from three to ten logs of a boyant timber, much resembling the cotton wood trees of the lower Mississippi. They are from ten to twenty-five feet in height, and are bolted or lashed together. The natives often carry cargoes weighing many tons along the coasts on these light and simple rafts using, as a rule, a single rudely fashioned sail and a crew of but one or two men.

They attain extraordinary speed even in the light airs of the Pacific Ocean, and make safe landings through the most dangerous surfs. Indeed, it is practically impossible to wreck them, though they are frequently drenched by the waves.

Consumption Surely Cured.

To the Editor: Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy FREE to any of your readers who have consumption, if they will send me their Express and P. O. address. Respectfully, T. A. SLOCUM, M. C., 181 Pearl St., New York.

Hope of Reform.

A year ago a missionary came in contract one night with a young man of more than ordinary ability in a Bowery lodging house, not far from Grand street. He was, however, drunk, dirty and disorderly. The minister spent a few minutes in conversation and asked the young man if he would meet him again, and he consented. It was a half-drunken promise, and from past experience the Christian worker expected little from it. Next day, sure enough, the young tough turned up as he said he would, and had another conversation with the missionary. He went along to the chapel that night out of curiosity, and succeeding nights out of interest. Then he came back to the lodging house and began work himself on his friends. There is nothing remarkable in this incident, save that the young man was a well known pickpocket and sneak thief named "Dutch John." This fall he is at Mr. Moody's school of theology, at Northfield, preparing himself for a career as a city missionary among the divys and lodging houses of New York.—*Pittsburg Dispatch.*

Beauty and Fragrance.

These are both attributes of the lovely. Beauty of the teeth, fragrance of the breath, are twin benefactions conferred by SOZODONT. The queens of society, the brightest ornaments of the lyric and dramatic stage, the refined everywhere commend it.

An Eye to Business.

Minister (to bereaved widow)—Yes, Mrs. Milded, John was such a good man; always the same, and you could know where to find him at all times.

Widow—Yes, that's so. (Sobs.)

Minister—And then in many matters he was so open-handed. I remember a time I needed money badly and John went down in his pocket for the whole sum. Ah! it was such a help.

Widow—Has (sob) it (sob) ever been (sob) paid back?—*Tid Bits.*

CATARRH CURED.

A clergyman, after years of suffering from that loathsome disease, Catarrh, and vainly trying every known remedy, at last found a prescription which completely cured and saved him from death. Any sufferer from this dreadful disease sending a self addressed, stamped envelope to Prof. J. A. Lawrence, 212 East 9th St., New York, will receive the recipe free of charge.

Measuring Health by Its Size.

The grave air of patronage and superiority with which little children of regard babies is something delicious. A child whose age is to be counted in months seems very, very young to one who has reached the dignity of years. Said a visitor to a certain little girl:

"And how is the baby to-day, Flossie?"

"Mamma thinks he is a little better."

"Then he is not much better?"

"No, ma'am. He could't be very much better, you know, because he's such a little bit of a baby."

Free! Free! Free! Trial package for the instant relief and speedy cure of Asthma. Address Hottinger's Drug Store, Lincoln Park, Chicago.

Always Miserable.

Jones—"You seem to be always miserable."

Smith—"So I am. Life has no pleasures for me."

"What is the matter?"

"Anxiety about my future robs me of one-half of present joy, and remorse for my past life gets away with the other half."

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria,
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria,
When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria,
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

REVENUE REDUCTION

OPINIONS OF MANY MEMBERS

Of the Present Congress Upon the Subject—They Give Their Views for the Benefit of the Blade's Readers.

CONCLUDED.

WESTERN STATES.

Ohio.

Second district—Republican:

I reply to your queries I would briefly state than the only reduction of revenues which I think ought to be made are as follows:

Revenues on sugar, about	$52,000,000
Internal revenues on tobacco, say	30,000,000
There should be placed to U. S. sugar planters a bounty of about	6,000,000
This would take from the treasury say	$88,000,000

In view of the fact that the 4½ per cent. bonds will be subject to call in a little more than three years after the first session of the Fiftieth Congress, and that a liberal policy should be pursued in the matters of pensions, internal improvements, coast defences and a navy, the above amount would seem to be a sufficient reduction of our receipts. Very respectfully, CHAS. E. BROWN.

Fourth District—Democratic:

1.—Yes. By an amount that will leave no surplus.

2.—Reduction should be made on imports of the necessaries of life, without impairing American industries.

3.—Those consumed by the laborers—the necessaries of life.

As all practical legislation is more or less in the nature of a compromise, it would seem that if such compromise, while reducing the revenue could result in giving our people cheaper raw material, and cheaper food and clothing, lumber and hardware, stop the monstrous war tax in time of peace, and at the same time secure for our manufacturers the absolute control of new and profitable markets for their goods, it would be the proper object to accomplish. Very truly, S. S. YODER.

Sixth district—Republican:

I am not prepared to answer in detail the questions propounded in your circular letter regarding the surplus revenue. But, so far as I have been able to formulate any ideas upon the subject, am in about this state of mind regarding it:

If any reduction is necessary, after applying such part of the surplus as may be needed, to meet the just claims of the Union soldiers, and needed internal improvements, and proper coast defense, then reduce the internal taxes on tobacco, and the import duties on sugar, sufficiently to make such reduction as may be deemed necessary; but provide against injury to our American sugar interests by the payment of sufficient bounty to off-set the tariff reduction.

I do not think it wise to reduce tariff taxes to any great extent, for when our bonds can be called and paid in 1891 and following year, we might find ourselves without the means of paying them as fast as would be desirable, unless we should re-enact the tariff taxes reduced now, and this might be impracticable. Generally speaking, I am not in favor of any tinkering with the tariff that will result injury to our system of protection, and not in favor of any reduction of taxes that will render us unable to meet the three demands above named; and, as to the first thereof, as I think, now justly claiming patriotic and prompt payment at the hands of the American people. Very truly,
M. M. BOOTHMAN.

Seventh district—Democratic:

1.—Yes. Cannot state annual amount of reduction exactly—over $50,000,000.

2.—The reduction should be on the tariff on imports.

3. Reduction should be made in the duties on salt, sugar, lumber, medicines and other necessities. JAMES E. CAMPBELL.

Tenth district—Republican:

Your circular received. In reply I would say:

1.—I am in favor of a reduction of the revenue by Congress in the manner I have set out in my letter to the Commissioner of the Internal Revenue, and to pay its just debts now due. I mean such debts as were in the last deficiency bill, amounting to millions of dollars, which bill Democratic management did not allow to become law, in order to show a small expenditure and keep money in the treasury, to compel Congress to vote for free trade. Also, what is necessary to provide for the defence of the country—for fortifications, guns, and a sufficient navy.

2.—I would say, abolish the tax on tobacco and on alcohol used in the arts, because they are direct taxes, and are paid by our own people; whereas, import taxes are often paid by the foreigner who wishes to sell in our market, which, however, does not increase the price, that being controlled by home competition; and at the same time gives protection to American labor.

3.—In that case, the duty should be taken off such articles, as will be found to come least in competition with our own productions. I would favor a small tariff on raw sugar, and pay the producers of raw sugar a premium on the amount produced equal to the duty taken off, to encourage the planting of sugar beets and sorghum cane.

4.—To reduce the surplus until 1891, when bonds can again be paid, improve the rivers and harbors of the country, take the soldiers out of the pension bureaus, relieving the states and counties of their support, give our manufacturers North and South; also give aid and support to our shipping, to enable it to compete with foreign shipping whereby new avenues of trade would be offered to us in the South American states and Eastern countries. It is idle to talk of reciprocity with those countries without having prompt and regular communication with them. Only two years ago we bought of Brazil over $40,000,000 worth of goods, while she only bought about $7,000,000 worth from us, although nearly all of the goods we bought of her were free from duty. One reason was because our mail and other communications are poor and she buys from England and Germany. All European countries, as England, France, Germany, Italy, and even Spain, give material support to the merchant marine, whereby ours is driven from the seas. Very respectfully,
JACOB ROMEIS.

Twelfth district—Republican:

As a new member, I can hardly be expected to have a thorough understanding of the situation; but I am in favor of a reduction of the revenue by Congress, but not to the extent of the surplus, which, with sugar amounts to $50,000,000 annually, yet we do not produce one-tenth of what we consume. I would greatly reduce the tariff on sugar, or remove it altogether, and pay a bounty to producers, and apply the balance of the surplus in pensions to soldiers. Respectfully, J. J. PUGSLEY.

Thirteenth District—Democratic:

In reply to yours containing certain questions on the problem of revenue reduction I will say: I do favor a reduction of the revenue by Congress as soon as possible, by such an amount as will prevent the accumulation of a surplus in the treasury—say $80,000,000 to $100,000,000 annually. It should be effected chiefly by reducing the heavy tariff duties on imports. In order to secure such a reform in our national taxing system as ought to be made, a small reduction in the internal tax on tobacco manufacturers may become necessary; but there can not be an abolition of internal revenue taxation for some time to come. A general lowering of tariff rates so that the average should be about 30 per cent on dutiable imports instead of over 45 per cent, as it is now) should be made. The duties upon raw materials and those articles slightly removed from that condition and also, those upon the necessaries of life which are most used by the people should be subject to the greatest reductions—several such articles might well be placed on the free list.

This course may be taken and still leave the duty upon imports which compete with our home productions, except in a few instances, equal to, or greater than the whole cost paid for the labor in this country, which is engaged in such industries. Truly yours,
JOS. H. OUTHWAITE.

Fifteenth District—Republican:

Answering your favor, I have the honor to state:

First—I think the present aggregate of public revenue may be reduced by something like one-fifth of one hundred millions of dollars, which bill Democratic management did not allow to become law, in order to show a small expenditure and keep money in the treasury, to compel Congress to vote for free trade. Also, what is necessary to provide for the defence of the country—for fortifications, guns, and a sufficient navy.

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Question Bureau.

1. The true name and postoffice address must be given in all cases, but, when specially requested, they will not be published.

No attention will be paid to mathema[tical] problems, questions of grammatical construc[tion], queries regarding the reliability of indivi[duals], or free prescriptions.

2. Communications for this department must be written on a separate sheet, directed to the "[Question Bureau,]" and contain not more than [three] questions. Do not ask a question and then pro[pound] another in the same letter. If we can answer it and it is con[sistent] with the interest of general interest, it will be answered. [Questions] useless to print will be answered by mail. [Enclose] stamp. The question Bureau is always full, and we [usually] cannot answer inquiries in the next issue [after] they are received, but will generally answer them within a few weeks behind.

3. This department is not intended to settle [personal] disputes or trifling bets. Replies to questions [will be] intended to be of general interest, and no one [can have] the right to the BLADE to ask a reply. Do not request [answer] by mail.

No question will receive the SLIGHTEST [attention] unless the first and third rules above [are] strictly complied with.

Minnesota Massacre.

R. M., Wilburn, Kansas:

Give an account of the massacre in Minnesota in 1862.

In the early months of 1862 the front[iers] which then meant Minnesota, Nebraska, Da[kota], and other parts of the now near North-west and West, was alarmed by rumors of [the] threatened outbreak among the Indian tri[bes] living along the border indicated. Report [after] that emissaries from the South had visited [the] tribes and had inflamed them to rise, plun[der] and destroy. As the events along the front[ier] the rumors added that the Federal Governm[ent] was about to be disinterested and that th[ey] could be no vigorous resistance made at this [time] in the North. Then, too, there were strong [rea]sons to believe that Confederate agents [were] also fanning the flame. This was [the] more likely to be true as it was known [that] Gen. Harney, of Ohio, or [the] Republican, had visited them early in the year, when [the] cause of the Mason and Slidell affair it [was] expected Great Britain would openly [take] part with the Confederacy, and [the] delegates [just] returned from [the] conference to [the] Indians was agreed[upon] to [have] been [that] Robert T. Lin[coln] was to [be] President, and [that] Forsker, with [his] son rises in [arms] against the people be[fore] and we will [hear] from the Re[public] of the na[tion] in the north. [Hon.] J. B. Bosworth, Cedar Bluffs, Kan.

GEN. VILAS'S REPORT.

The Postmaster General's Annual Report Presented to the President.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—Postmaster General Vilas has presented his report to President. It is a lengthy document, the leading points of which are already printed. The report presents facts of the transactions of this department of the operations of the postal service for the year ended with the 30th of June, 1887, the second complete fiscal year of this administration.

The expectation of growth and improvement in the affairs of the postoffice indulged in previous reports, has been realized during the past year. In addition to the ordinary growth of the business of the country, faithfully reflected in the mailable matter of the fourth class, postal service, the revenues have increased from the receipts of the preceding year by nearly $2,000,000, attaining a height never reached before, despite the restrictive operation of various reductions in the rates on certain classes of mail matter. Upon the other hand, the study of economy has not been without effect in reducing the necessarily rising scale of expenditure, so that the increase of cash payments has but little over-stepped $2,000,000.

"It is proper, also, parenthetically to state that expansion of the power and usefulness of the service has kept pace with its improved fiscal condition by a corresponding increase in the number of its postoffices, of its routes and in the mail transportation, by additions to the mail, and other special features indicated, in every branch of its work.

AGAINST A LOWER POSTAGE RATE.

In this promising condition of affairs it may be expected to find the press for a reduction in rates of postage, or some class of mail matter, and the specious appearance of popularity which their organization "for the improvement of the postal service" is already beginning to command. But the general interest will perhaps require that a reduction of the rate of postage shall be deferred to a somewhat later period. The time is probably not far off, when, if the wisest measures of economy be pursued, the rate of postage upon letters can be properly lowered to one cent per ounce, and some diminishment effected in the postage upon merchandise is a matter. But the letter postage of the United States is now fixed at a rate less than that of all other countries save one, while the distances of transportation considered, are cheaper than in any other. And the combined receipts from these two matter not of the first class fall far short of the cost of its handling; affords a reasonable claim, therefore, for less postage.

The whole number of postoffices in existence on the last day of October had become 57,678, which, 6,863 were to fill vacancies happening upon the expiration of commissions by resignations, by removals or suspensions; by death; and 3,043 to newly established offices. Among these appointments were upon your commission to which happened from the causes, the respective numbers following: By expiration of commission, 350; by resignation, 122; by removal or suspension by death, 39; and upon the assignment of fourth-class offices to a President, 145.

The following table of appointments since 1885 will be interesting:

New appointments:	
On expiration of commissions	6,863
On voluntary resignations	3,043
On deaths	1,145
On suspensions or removals	1,145
Reappointments on expiration of commissions	350
New appointments in offices become Presidential	122
Reappointments in offices become Presidential	145
Total cases of action	12,813

Offices unchanged since March 4, 1885.

To ascertain the number of postoffices of this class who have remained in office prior to the change of administration one must be made of the then existing offices since discontinued, estimated at 2,144; and thereupon subtracting the number of the changed officers, as found, the number still remaining to be 18,491, or a little above 39 per cent of the incumbents of offices then existing not since abolished.

THE FINANCIAL EXHIBIT.

The past four years constitute an interesting epoch in the financial history of the postal service. The fiscal year 1883 closed with a cash surplus of about $1,400,000, and the year 1883 increased the amount nearly $2,000,000. With the single exception of the year 1865, there had been an annual deficiency in the revenues of the service to meet the expenditures for years, sometimes of large, at other times of small sums. Upon the concurrence of years of surplus, the rate of letter postage was reduced from 3 to 2 cents, thus bringing from the revenue one-third of the principal supply. This change took effect on October 1, 1883, and was directly operative during but nine months of the fiscal year 1884. Its effect was marked, and, at the end of the year the deficiency was again restored to the sum of three and a quarter millions.

The increase in the employment of the service expected from cheapening of postage did not appear in the following year, but the revenue continued to diminish as the expenses to increase so that the 30th of June, 1885, found a balance of deficiency of $7,000,000 against the service to be prayed by the general treasury. This result was, beyond doubt, to the great business depression prevailing from the autumn of 1883 in the financial circles of the country, and the inference seems to be indicated that the volume of the mail and the employment of the postal service depend less upon the differences in the rates of postage, when already low, than upon the condition of general affairs, by which the service becomes more or less desired to business men. The later results appear to the apparent correctness of this deduction.

The report closes with a reference to the exterior marks on second class matter, says the law is enforced because it is on statute books and must be.

THE INTERIOR.

Report of Secretary Lamar for the Ending June 30.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—Secretary Lamar has presented his annual report. It is a voluminous document. Perhaps the most difficult and important duty with which this department is charged is the administration of the public land system. The theater of its operations embraces nearly three-fourths of the area of the American states and territories, and the vital importance exercised by the distribution of the ownership among the people renders the proper administration of the system of paramount importance to the present and future prosperity of the country.

The following amounts of lands have been restored to the public domain since March 4, 1885:

	Acres.
Area within railroad limits	8,958,176.00
Area within railroad indemnity limits	21,323,860.00
Private land claims	576,000.00
Fraudulent entries canceled	400,000.00
Invalid swamp and other state selections canceled	566,700.00
Total restored to the public domain	31,824,736.00

From the report of the commissioner of Indian affairs published an abridgment was made in this column, giving the outline of the policy of this administration in dealing with the Indians from the Mississippi to the Pacific. The settlers in Wyoming, Dakota, Montana and Minnesota were all unsuspicious of danger. Many of these settlers were Germans, especially in Minnesota, and the neighboring country was largely settled by Norwegians, and the rest were generally Americans. Thriving little villages had been built up along the frontier. The people were on friendly terms with the Indians who were near them, and never suspected the danger. The best informed writers of the period give it as their judgment that an insurrection had been formed deliberately, but the time of the massacre was brought on sooner than had been the intention of the leaders. On August 17 four Indians belonging to Little Crow's band of Sioux, were roaming over the country and became intoxicated on whisky obtained from a white man. They had a violent altercation with each other as to who was the bravest, and finally determined that the test of their bravery should be the killing of a white man. They committed several murders, and then boasted of what they had done. Little Crow was one of the conspirators, and as he expected retaliation for the outrages he at once began the intended attack. On August 18 with a force of 250 or 300 Indians he proceeded to the agency of Yellow Medicine and engaged in indiscriminate slaughter of all the whites he could find. The family of the Indian agent, who was absent, were among the victims of this murderous assault. A detachment of 45 soldiers, sent to the scene, were ambushed by the Indians and half their number killed. This incited the Indians to further outbreaks of unmanly atrocities. Settlers in isolated farm houses were butchered, women were violated and horribly killed, and untold brutalities were perpetrated. New Ulm, a flourishing German settlement in the Minnesota valley, was attacked on August 23, and other places were menaced. New Ulm was the only Indians engaged in these horrors, and those under Little Crow. The Chippewas became uneasy. They were the foes of the Sioux for generations, but were aroused because of the alleged gross frauds on the part of the agent, who escaped from the reservation and committed suicide, and the Chippewas remained passively quiet. On August 23 the attack on New Ulm was repulsed by a body of citizens under Judge Flandran. The state authorities had meanwhile organized a strong force of militia against the hostiles, and General H. H. Sibley, an experienced officer and Indian fighter, was placed in command. New Ulm was relieved by General Sibley's troops, and the refugees who had gathered there were removed to a better place of shelter. Fort Ridgley had been besieged for nine days, and its defenders had repelled three desperate assaults; and on August 26 it was succored by Colonel Sibley himself, who forward by General Sibley. The Indians fled, leaving they could not meet the troops under General Sibley, moved northward, killing and burning and outraging settlers in their trail, till at Swan Breckenridge, a town at the junction of the Big Sioux and the Red river of the North, which at that point formed the western boundary of the state. The savages had since to Fort Abercrombie, in Dakota. Re-enforcements were sent to relieve Fort Abercrombie. On Sept. 3, 150 Indians suddenly appeared at Cedar City, in McLeod county, in the center of the state, attacked a company of volunteers there and drove them in to Hutchinson, while another war party attacked Forest City, not far distant, but the citizens drove them off. A few days later the Indians attacked Hutchinson, but were repulsed. Companies of troops were hastened to the threatened points, and drove the Indians back. The terrible raid extended to Jackson, Noble and Pipestone counties, in the southwest part of the state, on the border of Iowa, and Colonel Judge Flandran, already mentioned, was sent with 500 troops to protect that district. The government at Washington had been apprised of the uprising, and on September 9 the legislature of Minnesota was called to meet in extra session. The Indians began to appreciate the forces against them and gradually withdrew from the desolated country. In September, however, they made two assaults upon Fort Abercrombie, but were repulsed with heavy losses. The United States sent out Gen. Pope to prosecute the war, and officiously. course he did all that an officer of his experience did so and ability could. The Indians now fled toward the western border. Many were brought to bay at Wood Lake on September 22, and after a sharp battle the Sioux were utterly defeated, and Little Crow, with his women and children, fled to the British line in Dakota. About 500 Indians were taken, and 498 were tried by court martial, and 300 sentenced to be hanged. The President ordered that only 38 of these should be executed, while the remainder were kept in confinement for some time. Among the 38 who were executed on December 26 was a negro named Godfrey, who had been a leader, and who was said to have killed more white settlers than any of the Sioux. The Minnesota Sioux warriors were estimated at from 1,000 to 1,200. The loss of life has never been accurately ascertained. Governor Ramsey stated in his annual message that 300 to 400 or 500 will cover the loss, which is appalling enough. Between 20,000 and 30,000 persons abandoned their homes, and many never returned. There was much suffering consequent upon the insurrection, but the people of the state contributed royally to the relief of the sufferers, and considerable aid was sent thither from other states.

Popular and Electoral Vote of 1884.

James M. Gray, Loup City, Neb.:

1. Give the electoral vote in each state, and tell which way each state voted in 1884. 2. Please give the popular Republican, Democratic, Prohibition and Labor vote of 1884 by states:

States.	Cleveland.	Blaine.	Butler.	St. John.	Dow.	Rell.
Alabama	92,931	59,144	762	610	10	
Arkansas	72,927	50,095	1,847		7	
California	89,292	102,816	9,642	2,920		
Colorado	27,643	86,166	1,961	702		
Connecticut	67,102	63,843	1,653	2,441	6	
Delaware	16,567	13,063	10	64	5	
Florida	31,769	28,091		72	4	
Georgia	74,656	26,147	135	102	12	
Illinois	312,384	337,411	10,849	12,005		
Indiana	244,992	238,869	8,293	3,028	15	
Iowa	177,158	197,091		4,607		
Kansas	90,134	154,406	16,341	4,964		
Kentucky	152,961	118,122	1,685	5,189	13	
Louisiana	67,538	46,877	1,207	139	8	
Maine	51,656	71,716	3,994	2,147		
Maryland	99,666	85,748	578	2,827	8	
Massachusetts	151,332	146,724	24,802	4,241		
Michigan	189,381	192,669	763	18,466	13	
Minnesota	70,005	111,685	8,088	4,684	5	
Mississippi	76,310	30,016				
Missouri	235,888	201,928		2,153	16	
Nebraska	54,391	76,808		2,899	5	
Nevada	3,749	7,048	26		4	
New Hampshire	39,187	43,250	599	1,571		
New Jersey	121,778	125,086	3,456	6,153	9	
New York	563,043	562,011	17,002	25,001	36	
North Carolina	142,952	125,068		464	11	
Ohio	368,280	400,082	5,179	11,269		
Oregon	34,001	26,860	994	1,836		
Pennsylvania	392,353	473,804	17,002	15,747		
Rhode Island	12,391	19,030	424	328	4	
South Carolina	69,764	21,692				
Tennessee	133,270	124,090	957	1,151	12	
Texas	233,879	91,701	3,321	3,548	13	
Vermont	16,331	45,567	1,105	1,705		
Virginia	145,497	139,356		138	12	
West Virginia	67,171	62,030	105	434	6	
Wisconsin	146,459	161,157	4,599	7,656	11	
Total	4,911,017	4,848,334	133,825	151,809	219	192

Douglas, Blaine, Clay.

J. M. Gray, Loup City, Neb.:

Please give a short sketch of Henry Clay, Stephen A. Douglas and James G. Blaine.

Stephen A. Douglas, styled the "Little Giant," an eminent Democratic statesman, was born in 1813. He gained an education by hard labor in Vermont, and settled at Jacksonville, Ill. His first speech in Congress established his reputation as an orator. He defended the Missouri Compromise on the ground of abstract right; supported President Polk in the war with Mexico, and opposed the Wilmot proviso in 1846. He was elected to the Senate in 1847, and was no less distinguished, Mr. Clay's Omnibus bill being made up of five separate measures previously introduced by Douglas. He was re-elected in 1852, and became unfavorably known as the originator of what is called "squatters sovereignty." Douglas was one of the four candidates for the Presidency in 1860, and died in June, 1861, immediately after the secession of the seven Confederate states, urging his sons to support the United States constitution. Henry Clay was born in 1777, in Hanover county, Va. In 1806 he was elected to Congress, and in 1809 chosen Senator. In 1811 he was sent to the House of Representatives and elected speaker. A strong advocate of nationality, he denounced the claims put forth by England as to the right of search; he was a strenuous supporter of the war with that country, and in consequence was sent in 1814, as one of the commissioners to sign the treaty of peace at Ghent. On his return he exerted all his talents in favor of the the independence of South America, and tried hard to eradicate all European influence from the American continent. Clay, however, is best known as the author of the famous Missouri Compromise, restricting slavery to the states south of 36 deg. 30 min. north latitude; and also for the compromise of 1850, known as Clay's omnibus measure. He died in 1852. James Gillespie Blaine is an American legislator, born in Pennsylvania in 1830; he graduated from Washington and Jefferson college in 1847; removed to Maine in 1853, and edited the Kennebec *Journal*; in 1858 sent to the state legislature by the Republicans, serving till 1862; in that year he was elected to the House of Representatives, serving till 1869; in 1870 he was elected to the Senate, serving till 1875; in 1876 he was elected to the House of Representatives, serving till 1882; in 1881 he was elected to the Senate, serving till 1887; in that year he was elected to the House of Representatives, serving till 1889; in 1890 he was elected to the Senate, serving till 1895; in 1896 he was elected to the House of Representatives, serving till 1897; in 1898 he was elected to the Senate, serving till 1899; in 1900 he was elected to the House of Representatives, serving till 1901; in 1902 he was elected to the Senate, serving till 1903; in 1904 he was elected to the House of Representatives, serving till 1905; in 1906 he was elected to the Senate, serving till

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1887.

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TOLEDO BLADE Co., Publishers. D. R. LOCKE, Editor.

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THE BLADE FOR 1888.

Has it occurred to you, reader, that the Presidential campaign for 1888 will be even more hotly contested than that of 1884? And has it also occurred to you that you need to read a first-class newspaper, during this intensely exciting and interesting political battle, which will cover the summer and fall of 1888?

If these things have not occurred to you, we beg to call your attention to them—and also to the fact that the renewal season for subscriptions is at hand. In view of the coming Presidential campaign, all the present subscribers of the BLADE should renew, and every one who does not take it, should come in at this time and get it for the year.

We are glad to announce, as a special feature of the BLADE for the great campaign year, that the NASBY LETTERS will be a leading feature during its continuance. "Mr. Nasby" has been very quiet for some time, but he sees the postoffice at the X Roads trembling in the balance, and he is preparing to do his best to win the day!

Everybody will want the series of Nasby letters for the coming campaign. Subscribe for the BLADE, and get them in full!

Not only will these letters be a conspicuous feature of the BLADE, but the regular departments will be improved and bettered. The "Household," the "Young Folks," the "Camp Fire," the "Farm," and "Question Bureau" will each be made the best of its kind; and the BLADE shall still be more worthy of the title of "The only *perfect* newspaper in America."

We are preparing for a tremendous accession to our subscription list the coming year. During the campaign of 1884 our circulation ran up to 200,000, and we expect a half million during 1888.

Send us the addresses of all your friends whom you think would like a first-class newspaper, and we will send a specimen copy to each of them. We want EVERYBODY to send us a list of addresses.

And if you want to earn an honest penny yourself, send for confidential terms to club agents. We shall pay a larger cash commission for clubs this year than any other paper before the public. An energetic person can easily earn $5 a day by raising clubs for the BLADE this winter. Write for confidential club terms.

Don't fail to send lists of names for sample copies.

THE SUPREME COURT DECISION ON THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF PROHIBITORY ENACTMENTS.

The decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in the Kansas liquor cases has placed the whole matter on new ground. We shall hear no more of propositions to pay brewers and distillers for property claimed to be injured by Prohibitory laws. We shall have no more of appeals to the highest tribunal of the nation against what is assumed to be tyranny on the part of the majority of the people of a state.

The decision in the cases was practically unanimous. Of the eight justices now on the Supreme bench, seven approved the decision: and the eighth—Justice FIELD, was in agreement with his colleagues upon all main points, including the right of a state to prohibit the manufacture or sale of Rum, and dissented only on minor points. This was a genuine surprise, as the general feeling was that the court would very probably be a tie, dividing equally upon the question. There is no fear that any federal tribunal will hereafter intervene to place any legal obstacle in the way of the enforcement of any Prohibitory legislation. So far as the constitution of the United States is concerned, it is perfectly lawful for any state to interdict the manufacture and sale of spirituous liquors, or any other sort of article whatever, which, in the judgment of the legislature of such state, are obnoxious to the public health and morals.

This decision was rendered in what were known as the Kansas liquor cases. One of them presented the issue of the constitutionality of Prohibition, and the other raised the question of the right of a liquor dealer to recover compensation for his losses caused by the enforcement of the law. The provisions of the constitution involved are to be found in the following clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment:

> No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the law,

And also in the concluding clause of the Fifth Amendment, which is as follows:

> Nor shall private property be taken for public use without just compensation.

The Supreme court holds that the right to manufacture and sell intoxicating liquors is not one of the rights growing out of the citizenship of the United States. It is a right which may be conceded or withdrawn in the discretion of the state. The latter is the supreme and final judge of what is or is not consistent with the health and morals of the community embraced within its territorial limits. The power to determine whether intoxicants are injurious or not must reside somewhere, or society would be at the mercy of the few who, only regarding their own appetites, passions or interests, might imperil the peace and security of the many. Under our system of government it belongs to the legislative departments of the several states of the Union. It is one of the reserved powers—one of the powers which were not delegated to the general government on the formation of the constitution. It comes within the province of the state to make its own police regulations, and is essential to the preservation of the theory upon which the federation is based.

The other essential point of the decision embraces the claim of the person whose property may be damaged or destroyed by prohibition to be indemnified therefor. The court refuses to recognize the claim of the brewers, whose case was on trial, which claim can be briefly stated thus:

> It is contended that as the primary and principal use of beer is as a beverage, and as their respective breweries were erected when it was lawful to engage in the manufacture of beer for every purpose, such establishments will become of no value if not employed in the manufacture of beer for every purpose. The prohibition upon their being so employed is in effect a taking of property for public use without compensation, and consequently a deprivation of property without due process of law.

The court declares that the above interpretation of the Fourteenth Amendment is inadmissible. It can not be supposed that the states intended, by adopting that amendment, to impose restraints upon the exercise of their powers of mere police. The principle that no person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law was embodied in the constitution of nearly all, if not all, of the several states at the time of the adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment. It has never been regarded as incompatible with the principle, equally vital, because essential to the peace and safety of society, that all property in this country is held under the implied obligation that the owner's use of it "shall not be injurious to the equal enjoyment of others having an equal right to the enjoyment of their property, nor injurious to the rights of the community." The decision goes on to say:

> The question now before us arises under what are strictly the police powers of the state, exerted in a legitimate manner, for the protection of the people against the evils of intemperance, and its attendant evils of disorder, disease, pauperism and crime.
>
> As already stated, the present case must be governed by the principles that do not involve the power of eminent domain, in the exercise of which property may not be taken for public use without compensation.
>
> A prohibition simply upon the use of property for specific purposes that are declared by valid legislation to be injurious to the health, morals or safety to the community, can not in any just sense be deemed a taking or an appropriation of property for the public benefit. Such legislation does not disturb the owner in the use of his property for lawful purposes, but is only a declaration by the state that its use by any one for certain forbidden purposes is prejudicial to the public interests.
>
> Nor can legislation of that character come within the fourteenth amendment in any case unless it is apparent that the real object is not to protect the community or to promote the general well being, but under the guise of police regulations to deprive the owner of his liberty and property without due process of law. The power which the states unquestionably have of prohibiting such use by individuals of their property as will be prejudicial to the health, morals or the safety of the public, is not, and, consistently with the existence of organized society, could not be burdened with the condition that the state must compensate such individual owners for pecuniary losses they sustain by reason of their not being permitted by a noxious use of their property to inflict injury upon the community of which they form a part.
>
> The exercise of the police power by the destruction of property, which is itself a nuisance, or the prohibition of its use in its particular way, whereby its value becomes depreciated, is very different from taking property for public use, or from depriving a person of his property without due process of law. In the one case a nuisance only is abated; in the other unoffending property is taken away from an innocent owner.
>
> It is true that when the defendants in these cases purchased or erected their breweries the laws of Kansas did not forbid the manufacture of intoxicating liquors. But the state did not thereby give any assurance, or come under obligation, that its legislation upon that subject would remain unchanged.

The decision then quotes from a previous decision to the effect that if the public safety or the public morals require the discontinuance of any manufacture or traffic, the hand of the legislature can not be staid from providing for its discontinuance by any incidental inconvenience which individuals or corporations may suffer.

The third point decided was as to the constitutionality of the Kansas statute which declares all places wherein liquors are manufactured and sold to be nuisances, and provides for their summary closing by injunction, without jury trial. The power of the state was sustained fully. The court declared that, the state having authority to prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors, undoubtedly has the power to declare that any place kept and maintained for the illegal manufacture and sale of such liquors shall be deemed a common nuisance and be abated, and at the time to provide for the indictment and trial of the offender.

As to the objections that the statute makes no provision for a jury trial in such cases, the courts declares that such a mode of trial is not required in suits in equity brought to enjoin a public nuisance. The decision goes on to say:

> The statutory direction that an injunction issue at the commencement of the action is not to be construed as dispensing with such preliminary proof as is necessary to lay the foundation for an injunction pending the suit. The court is not to issue an injunction simply because one is asked, or because the charge is made that a common nuisance is maintained in violation of the law. The statute leaves the court at liberty to give effect to the principle that an injunction will not be granted to restrain a nuisance except upon clear and satisfactory evidence as to the fact.
>
> Here the fact to be ascertained was, not whether a place kept and maintained for the purposes forbidden by the statute was per se a nuisance—that fact being conclusively determined by the statute itself—but whether the place in question was so kept and maintained. If the proof upon that point is not full and satisfactory, the court can refuse an injunction or postpone action until the state first obtains the verdict of a jury in her favor.

The scope of the decision may be stated thus:

> It distinctly declares that the "police power" of the state gives it authority to prohibit the manufacture and sale of Rum, or anything else which may be deemed detrimental to the public safety, the public health, or the public morals.
>
> It does not hold the state liable for the value of property injured by such legislation, and frees the state from all claim for compensation.
>
> It upholds the power to close saloons and Rum holes, open in violation of law, by injunction as common nuisances, without a jury trial.
>
> It declares that the state can forbid a man from manufacturing for his own use, or for export. Justice HARLAN, who read the decision, said upon this point:
>
> The right to manufacture drink for one's own use is subject to the restriction that it shall not endanger or affect the rights of others. If such manufacture does prejudicially affect the rights and interests of the community, it follows that society has the power to protect itself by legislation against the injurious consequences of that business.

And it makes Prohibition a state issue, not a national one, by basing the right to prohibit upon the police power of the state. The decision vindicates the right of self-government to the people of each state, and gives the friends of Prohibition a tried and tested line of statutory enactment to work upon. It gives a solid basis for law makers, and an impregnable ground for continuing the war against Rum. The decision is a tower of strength to those who are laboring with might and main to

Pulverize the Rum Power.

TO AGENTS.

We shall pay an unusually large cash commission to agents who raise clubs for the BLADE this season. In view of the approaching Presidential campaign, agents will find it an easy matter to obtain a considerable number of clubs for the BLADE during the season, and upon the liberal terms we offer, an agency for the BLADE will be worth having. We want *one* active agent at every postoffice. Write us for our *confidential terms to agents.*

THE following shows the dates and places at which the national conventions of the Republican party has been held, and the Presidential nominee selected at each:

Date.	Place.	Nominee.
1856—June 17	Philadelphia	J. C. Fremont.
1860—May 16	Chicago	A. Lincoln.
1864—June 8	Baltimore	A. Lincoln.
1868—May 21	Chicago	U. S. Grant.
1872—June 5	Philadelphia	U. S. Grant.
1876—June 14	Cincinnati	R. B. Hayes.
1880—June 2	Chicago	A. Garfield.
1884—June 3	Chicago	J. G. Blaine.
1888—June 19	Chicago	

IT is with pleasure that the Americans learn from the European papers that the hyphen in the name of President CARNOT is an invention of the telegraph operators. SADI is simply one of the given names of the French president, and he has heretofore been known as SADI CARNOT to distinguish him from his father, HIPPOLYTE CARNOT, a member of the French senate. There is a general lack of confidence, in this country at least, in a man who parts his name or his hair in the middle.

SPAIN is talking of increasing her tariff 25 per cent. No free trade foolishness among the European nations, outside of Turkey and Great Britain.

THE TRADE OUTLOOK.

The most significant result of the President's message is found in the condition of business. There is a sudden cessation of the activity that has been so marked a feature of the trade reports for several weeks past, and nothing to account for it, save the threat in the President's message of Congressional action that will utterly damage all business; for the holidays are approaching, and trade should be much heavier as they come nearer.

Another significant sign is the closing of the great Joliet Steel Works, at Joliet, Illinois. They will close for an indefinite period on Christmas Day. The pay roll of this company amounts to $100,000 per month, and it employs 2,000 men. The mills have run steadily for six years, interrupted only once, in 1883, about four months, by a strike. The plant is one of the most improved and successful in the world, and can compete with any works known. Over $200,000 has been spent in improvements during the past eighteen months. The reason for the closing down is the lack of orders and great depression in the steel rail market—which the company declares is because the President's message and the attitude of Congress on the tariff question, unsettled the industry so that prices on contracts for 1888 delivery could not be made with any certainty as to what the market price would be, and that with this uncertainty no orders could safely be contracted for, if they were to be had.

TALMAGE—A BEAUTIFUL PORTRAIT OF A FAMOUS PREACHER.

At the request of thousands of our readers, we have had engraved a magnificent portrait of the great and world-famous pulpit orator, Rev. T. DEWITT TALMAGE, uniform in style with our other Military and Religious Heroes. The portrait is absolutely life-like, is executed in the very highest style of the art, and will be an ornament to any house. The thousands upon thousands of admirers of the great Brooklyn preacher, the greatest and most effective pulpit speaker now living, will be glad to secure this speaking likeness of the man. It has a more than passing value, for it is taken while he is yet in his prime, in the vigor and strength of his manhood, and while he is doing his most effective work. Every reader of his matchless sermons should have one. We mail them singly, post-paid, for 25 cents. For the combination with our other portraits, see announcement on fifth page, under the head of Publisher's Department.

DOES REDUCTION REDUCE?

The reduction of the rate of duty on imports does not necessarily reduce the revenue. In point of fact, it may increase it. The reason is this: the tariff being reduced, foreign manufacturers enormously increase the amount of goods sent over here, for they can then find a profit in doing so; and the amount collected is increased, although the rate is lower, because the imports are so much greater.

Here is a case in point: The total value of duties on imports of woolen goods and wool for the three years previous to the reduction in the tariff of March 3, 1883, was $17,964,907.52; and for the three years subsequent to the reduction the duties were $20,430,410.97, an increase of $11,465,503.27.

Duties for 1881-2-3	$17,964,907 52
Duties for 1884-5-6	29,430,410 79
Increase	$11,465,503 27

This one example shows the utterly superficial view taken of the surplus reduction problem by the President. The reduction of the tariff is the more likely to increase the revenue than to decrease it, as is clearly shown by the above.

WHAT ROBERT LINCOLN THINKS.

The Chicago *Journal* sent an interviewer to ascertain the views of ROBERT T. LINCOLN on the President's message and Mr. BLAINE's Paris interview. He found Mr. LINCOLN extremely busy, and hence paying but little attention to political matters. But he found time to give the interviewer the following:

> I think Judge Caton, who is a good old Democrat, expressed the whole gist of the matter in a nutshell in a little article I saw published as coming from him, when he said that he thought it would be a good thing to have the President's views put into effect, because it would result in the closing up of every manufacturing establishment in the country within a year, and would thereby effectually settle the dispute between capital and labor.
>
> I think that that, coming from a good old Democrat, is a very forcible description of the present political situation. While I do not agree with Judge Caton that that would be a good thing to do, I am strongly inclined to believe that were the President's views to be given practical effect, it would have that unfortunate result.

MR. BLAINE ON THE MESSAGE.

Mr. BLAINE's comments upon the President's message show him to be in full accord with the best thought of the Republican party upon the tariff question. He goes to the bottom of the matter at once, and recognizes that the inevitable result of the adoption of the policy recommended by the President must be a reduction in the incomes of the vast mass of the American people. This is certainly clear to every one. Just as surely as the products of cheap European labor are admitted to practically free competition with American manufactures, by the reduction of the tariff, so surely must the rate of American wages be lowered. Perhaps not fully lowered to the European basis, but inevitably lowered. American workmen will promptly decide whether they are ready for a wholesale reduction of their arnings.

Mr. BLAINE is the most noted and most brilliant of American statesmen. His views carry more weight with the mass of his fellow-countrymen than those of any other American citizen. He is not afraid to frankly and freely express his views upon any matter of governmental policy affecting the welfare of the American people; and he steps to the front promptly to criticise and condemn the policy outlined by the President, because, should Congress be so unmindful of the lessons of history and the teachings of common sense as to carry it into effect it will spread financial ruin among American manufacturers and destroy the means of living of tens of thousands of American workingmen.

THE New York *World*, by some means as yet unknown, but possibly by favor of the President, published one day in advance a very fair indication of what the message would be, in its Washington special. In this, it is spoken of as the President's message "to the first Congress of our second century as the United States." This is a manifest blunder. This is the Fiftieth Congress, and it will be in existence two years. The first century of our existence as a nation will not be completed until this Congress has completed its term; and the President's message "to the first Congress of our second century" will be the one addressed to the Fifty-first Congress, which will not assemble until the first Monday in December, 1889. And we place our prediction on file that its writer will not be GROVER CLEVELAND.

THOUGH the argument for the immediate admission of Dakota as a state is an overwhelmingly strong one, there is no probability that the Democratic majority in the House will recognize the force of it at the present time. There is one insuperable obstacle to the admission of Dakota to the Union, and that is that the territory is overwhelmingly Republican. Even if it were to be divided into two parts, there would still be a strong Republican majority in each. The Democrats will not take the risk of presenting the Republican party with three electoral votes at a Presidential election so close as that of 1888 may be, or of adding two Senators to the Republican side of a Senate now almost equally divided.

A DEFINITE ISSUE.

CLEVELAND has settled one thing by his message; he has declared what shall be the issue to be decided by the Presidential campaign of 1888. It is to be the protective system of the country—whether it is to be maintained or broken down.

We give most hearty thanks to the President that he has compelled the Democracy to abandon their shifty, evasive attitude on the tariff, and that he has boldly interpreted the turgid, double-reading plank of the Democratic national platform of 1884 to mean a reduction of the tariff on a line which will break down its protective features, and render it a tariff for revenue only. The Democratic party is to be consistent in its record. It is to continue to be the enemy of the best interests of the people and of our nationality.

Here is a clear-cut issue that must be met, and met squarely, by the Republican party. There must be no evasion of the real point. The Republican party is planted squarely on the principle of protection to American industries, and can await the shock of battle next November in the serene consciousness that the majority of the people of the nation agree with it.

This act of the President renders possible a new alignment. It puts the principle of protection on its trial before a jury of the American people. All other issues become subordinate, and the campaign will be fought out on the tariff. The friends of protection have nothing to fear, if they make good use of their time to enlighten the masses upon the question, and show clearly that CLEVELAND'S position necessarily means to reduce the stipend of every man who earns his own living by the work of his hands or of his brain; that it meant a reduction all along the line—to every body in the country who works for wages for hire, or for salary.

There are always, in every community, a number of people who are more or less discontented with existing conditions. "Whatever is, is wrong," seems to be the motto on which they act. They want "progress," and are unmindful of the fact that mere change is not necessarily progress, but that it may be retrogressive just as often. There are thousands of these people in the United States to-day, who are too young to have actually experienced the evils under which the country labored in low tariff times, who favor the President's free trade policy simply because it is something new, something different.

This is one of the four classes of people who will favor the breaking down of the protective system. The other three are:

The importers and jobbers of foreign goods, whose business will be enormously increased and their profits correspondingly enlarged—and all others to whom an increase of imports would mean money profit.

The men of limited experience in actual business, including professional men, theorists and dreamers, and a large number of other persons who are captivated by the showy theories of the Cobden club propaganda, and adhere to free trade because they know no better.

The mass of ignorant and unintelligent voters which has always been the peculiar property of the Democratic party, who know nothing about the subject except what demagogues and pot-house politicians tell them, and who will vote for anything that has the Democratic brand on it.

Of course the last class is the most numerous, though the third embraces a very large number. There are thousands of sincere but mistaken voters who are now inclined to vote with the Democrats on this issue, because they do not understand it clearly. Here is work to do which must be done, and that promptly. The people must be aroused to the actual danger that menaces us when the chief executive of the land devotes his entire message to this one issue, and practically demands of his party friends in Congress that they shall put his recommendation into the form of law.

Let no Republican waste one word upon the Eastern mugwumps. They are free traders, almost to the last man. Their feeling for CLEVELAND will now increase almost to the point of idolatry. They will vote as he directs, and they are definitely lost to the Republicans.

But the change in the situation gives us the certainty of carrying New Jersey and Connecticut on the tariff issue, and New York also. The state, outside the city, is strongly Republican and protectionist. Now let the hundreds of thousands of wage-workers in New York city and Brooklyn have demonstrated to them clearly the fact that the striking down of the tariff wall means lower wages, less work, dull times, stagnation, want and suffering, and the Empire state will roll up a majority for protection that will paralyze the President.

The Democrats claim that they will carry the Northwest on the tariff issue. There is not the slightest hope of that if the Republicans of those states do their duty, and instruct the farmers of that section of the real effects that shall follow revenue reduction. The prospects are bright for a sweeping Republican victory on this issue. The one thing necessary is to concentrate the fight upon this one point, and "edge the lines with fire."

ANOTHER NEW PORTRAIT—ROBERT LINCOLN.

So great is the interest now manifested in ROBERT T. LINCOLN, in connection with the next Republican National convention, that we yielded to the request of thousands of subscribers who ask us to add him to the Blade's Portrait Gallery of Eminent Men. We have therefore had engraved at great expense an excellent portrait of ROBERT LINCOLN, which is uniform in size with other portraits of our publication, but *this one* is printed in tints, at a greater cost than the others, and is pronounced by judges to be the finest one in our Gallery. As a likeness it is absolutely correct, and as a piece of art work it is handsomely executed. We mail them singly, post paid, for 25 cents.

APROPOS of the President's condemnation of "trusts"—which we disapprove of as much as he possibly can—the fact that there are trusts in quinine, anthracite coal, and milk, all of which are on the free list, and in tin, which is virtually on the free list, as there is no protective feature about the duty on it, goes to show that GROVER don't know what he is talking about when he says that the tariff is to blame for these "trusts." The tin and quinine trusts are foreign organizations, besides. The tendency to commercial combinations is one of the features of the times, and manifests itself in all countries, and under all economic systems.

THE "radical reduction" of the duties on raw materials, or the placing of them on the free list, which CLEVELAND favors, means: The extinction of wool-growing in the United States, and the flooding of the country with a deluge of wheat from the Manitoba wheat region and from India—for Indian wheat can be put down in Chicago, if the duty is removed, for less than American wheat is selling in that market to-day.

THERE is entire unanimity of feeling among the Republican leaders at Washington regarding the President's message, that the effect will be to make the tariff question the chief issue of the next Presidential campaign, and that the Republican party, supporting the principle of "protection to our domestic industries," will stand a first-class chance of success.

WHAT the President don't know about wool would make a very bulky volume.

OVER THE FENCE.

The Democratic papers are making the most of the fact that the Chicago *Tribune*, a Republican paper, agrees with the position of the President in his message. They assume that this means that the Republican party is divided on the tariff. The fact is, the *Tribune* has always been a free trade paper. It belongs on the Democratic side of the fence, and the sooner it realizes that fact the better it will be for itself. The Republican party has no room for an open and avowed enemy of American workingmen and American industries.

However, these same Democratic sheets are silent as the tombs of the moundbuilders upon the fact that there is a large section of the Democracy committed to the maintenance of the American system. There is not a Democratic Congressman from Pennsylvania who favors the President's plan save W. L. SCOTT; and he was a rampant protectionist while he was a steel manufacturer. He sold out of that business, went to speculating in railways, and turned free trade Democrat. Then the entire Democratic party in Virginia is in favor of protection, and the legislature, by a practically unanimous vote, called on the Virginia Congressmen to work for the repeal of the internal revenue laws, and against tariff reduction. The same feeling exists in very many of the Southern states. There are fifty Democratic protectionists to one Republican free trader.

The Chicago *Tribune* is the only Republican paper in the country that favors the President's scheme. But look at the Atlanta *Constitution*, the Nashville *American*, the Richmond *Dispatch*, the Birmingham *Age* and the Mobile *Register*—all widely circulated papers, the recognized organs of the Democracy of their several sections, all favoring protection. Why do not the Democratic sycophantic newspapers of the North tell of these sheets? We quote below, from the Birmingham *Age's* editorial columns, a discussion of the changes wrought by the President's message in the political situation:

> The party status to be developed by the message may be defined as follows: The Republicans will tacitly evade or avoid the negro alliance in Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Alabama. They will practically eliminate the negro from politics, and on this line of action will strike out to capture the white vote pronouncedly opposed to the President's theories.
>
> They will proceed after this method for two reasons. First, they have no cause to expect a change in the visible negro vote, if it be true, as they allege, that no matter how cast it is never counted, save to one end. Next, should the Republican party be able to enlist the local support of the whites to any considerable extent, these would of themselves demand the free vote and fair count of the ballots of the negroes.
>
> It may be thus readily perceived that the Republicans would not count it a loss to suspend their traditional sympathy for the negro for their own and the negro's good. That this movement will be made by the Republicans there can be no doubt.
>
> The Democratic masses of the Union will repudiate Mr. Cleveland's theories. They reflect the peculiar conditions of New York city, whose interests demand free trade. They are opposed to the overmastering interests of the people of the interior.
>
> The course of the President will disorganize the Democracy and for the reasons stated it will revolutionize the policy of the Republican party in the South. The decisions of the Supreme court on the Virginia bond case, the Kansas prohibition case, and the Illinois anarchists cases have incalculably affected the Southern people. These decisions have established the theory of state rights, and they emanate from a Republican court. These facts, taken in conjunction, will be all the more decisive of a disruption of party discipline, and all the more conducive to a full and free discussion by the people of the great paramount questions of the day.

All of which foreshadows a complete disruption of party lines in the South, and their formation anew on a different division.

TWO IMPORTANT TEMPERANCE DOCUMENTS.

We call attention to an announcement in the Publisher's Department, fifth page, of two very important Temperance documents, which we have just issued. One is upon the result of Thirty Years of Prohibition in Maine, and the other the testimony of Ten Eminent Physicians as to the effect of Lager Beer upon the Human System. These pamphlets, by D. R. Locke, should be scattered broadcast. They should be circulated by the million. See terms and order at once.

THE official figures of the late New York election show no sound reason why the Republican party should despair of success in next year's campaign in that state. The vote was a trifle over a million. The Democratic plurality for secretary of state was 15,000, for the other officers voted for it averaged about 12,000. This is only a little more than one per cent. of the entire number of votes cast, and is certainly a very narrow margin. Add to the present total the votes which next year will be cast for the first time, and the votes which are never drawn out save in presidential years, and it is evident that the vote next November will be not far from a million and a quarter. Now it is absolutely impossible to say how this quarter of a million of votes will be divided between the two parties, or what will become of the 110,000 votes cast this year for HENRY GEORGE and for the political Prohibitionists. But at any rate when a million and a quarter of votes are coming to the ballot-boxes, a present Democratic plurality of about 12,000 is nothing to be feared. New York is a promising field for either party, and the recent election cannot be said to have settled anything definitely concerning next year's contest.

WHILE it may or may not be true that HENRY CLAY once said that he would rather be right than be President, it is doubtless a fact that M. CARNOT owes his election to the Presidency of the French Republic largely to the fact that he preferred to resign his portfolio as minister of finance rather than order illegally the restitution of 75,000 francs to the clients of ex-President GREVY.

THERE is much excitement over the actions of a French syndicate, which is trying to corner the tin, copper and lead markets. The agents of the concern in different countries are steadily buying all of these, and the prices are sailing skyward.

THE secretary of War says the fortifications and public works along the Atlantic are in need of repairs; but this method of disposing of the surplus does not commend itself to the free trade fanatics of whom CLEVELAND is chief at present.

IT is unmitigated bosh to talk of the cost of the necessaries of life "robbing" the workingman of his hard-earned wages, in view of the fact that food, and clothing, and all the necessaries, were never so cheap as to-day.

CLEVELAND is a tax-dodger. He refuses to pay personal taxes on property in Buffalo because he is a non-resident. Now let the authorities at Washington charge it up to GROVER.

THE name of the new French president is pronounced "Sahdy Carno." His salary is $120,000 a year, plus $50,000 for living expenses, and free quarters in the Elysee.

EX-LIEUT. GOV. E. O. STANARD, of Missouri, says that the Republicans in that part of the country are anxious for the nomination of ROBERT T. LINCOLN.

THE fact that CLEVELAND'S message is popular in England should cause the Americans to unite against the economic policy it endorses.

IT is clearly evident that the President has a hobby, and that he is mounted for a long ride—or until he is thrown.

THE late elections in Michigan show that local option is a very prompt way in which to pulverize the Rum Power.

THE President's message would have been much stronger had he also omitted all mention of the tariff.

ANOTHER SHORT SERIAL IN THE BLADE.

The serial now running in the BLADE'S columns, "John Duncan's Widow," will be concluded in next week's paper—that of December 22. In the following issue, bearing date of December 29, we will begin another short serial, entitled,

"HARRY LANAHAN; A Story of the Mines."

This will be of about the same length as the one now running, and will, we are sure, be appreciated by every member of the great BLADE constituency.

TO ALL FRIENDS OF AMERICAN INDUSTRIES.

The President's message has made the issue one between the workingmen of this country and the workingmen of Europe. Mr. CLEVELAND wishes the tariff cut down in the interests of foreigners; we desire to see the tariff kept up in the interest of Americans.

The great political battle of 1888, embracing both the Presidential and the Congressional elections, will be fought on this issue. The BLADE will stand, as it always has stood, the unfaltering champion of our own country. We believe in legislation for our own interests, our own people, rather than for those of Europe.

We ask all friends of the American system, who sympathize with us, to aid us by sending us subscriptions and names. The BLADE shall be the strongest, the most energetic, of the champions of American industries and laborers in the struggle. Give us not only your sympathy, but your aid, in extending our circulation, and thus spreading a knowledge of the truth.

THAT SURPLUS.

Were one to believe the absurd statements of the Democratic free trade press, it would be supposed that the surplus is piling up in the treasury at the rate of ten million dollars a month, or even more. It may be wise, at this juncture, to allow an official of the present administration—no less a person than the Secretary of the Treasury—to define what the surplus really is, and how fast it is accumulating. In his annual report, Mr. FAIRCHILD says that the surplus revenue is

> the money which annually remains in the treasury of the United States after the affairs of this department have collected the taxes laid on the people by the laws of Congress and have paid all the expenses and obligations of the government, except principal of the interest-bearing debt.

This surplus he puts at $103,471,097.69 for the last, and at $113,000,000 for the current fiscal year. The requirements of the sinking fund, however, disposed of nearly $18,000,000 of this surplus in each year, leaving the amount about $55,000,000 last year and $65,000,000 the present year. We are justified in making this deduction, because the secretary explicitly says that he is not disposed to recommend the repeal of the sinking fund requirements. Besides the question of the surplus revenue, there is the question of the surplus money in the treasury, which the secretary states at $55,258,701.19.

He suggests the wisdom of so diminishing taxation as to reduce the annual revenues for some years to come to a point below the annual appropriations. In the light of this suggestion, it is apparent how great the reductions in the tariff which the administration contemplates must be. It is now pretty generally conceded that such reductions as those contained in the MORRISON bill would increase rather than diminish the revenues. The chief omission of the secretary, like that of the President, is his failure to explain how the enormous reductions in customs duties which he recommends are to be made without injuring American manufacturers and American labor.

IS BLAINE A CANDIDATE?

Mr. HALSTEAD makes some rather important statements in his telegraphic letter to his paper, published on Sunday morning. He declares that Mr. BLAINE is disinclined to make the race for the Presidency next year. In point of fact, his remarks are of such wide interest that we reproduce them here, and ask for them a dispassionate perusal:

> Certainly the Blaine interview sounds like a proclamation. It is wonderfully clear and strong, exact and striking, and especially marked with the characteristics of the author's style and oversights and methods of presenting his case. It is the sound of the trumpet in the a manifesto, and yet it may not mean at all what the average politician will naturally insist is perfectly obvious and conclusively established.
>
> It may not mean that Mr. Blaine has made up his mind to run for the Presidency, but just the other thing.
>
> Mr. Blaine's disinclination to be the candidate is as well known to increase rather than decrease since he has been in Europe. Those who know him best have the strongest possible assurances of his sincerity, and know that it is derived from absolutely declining only by his sense of obligation both to friends and to enemies.
>
> The position of Mr. Blaine is one of immense potentiality and responsibility, and as the case stands he has done his work and given his back upon the Presidency in better form after the blast of the trumpet from Paris than before.
>
> He certainly would do so if there were assurances that there could be found a man stronger before the people in the critical states.
>
> He certainly will do so if not called to go to the front again by such manifestations of Republican public opinion as are practically unanimous—at least so dominant as to be unanswerable and unavoidable.
>
> That Mr. Blaine has, under the pressure of the sense of responsibility resting upon him, made tentative inquiries looking to possible Presidential candidates who might heal all differences and summon all Republicans into one grand army, is confidently asserted upon high authority, and it may be stated upon the same authority that nothing that removes doubts has been ascertained. Mr. Blaine's special friends, who have been for him for twelve years, and have had the majority of delegates with Republican constituencies in three successive national conventions, are watching and waiting for a word from him, but they do not get it, and his coldness and reserve they find disappointing.
>
> If the nomination goes, or would go to Mr. Blaine again, it would be, to secure his acceptance, the expression not merely of those who have been for him heretofore, but reinforced by those who have been against him.
>
> Mr. Blaine could get the nomination, but he could not afford to do it in ways involving a suspicion of seeking and strategy. Something approaching spontaneity and unanimity are required to suit the demands, and no one is so sensitively alive to this state of the case as Mr. Blaine himself.

AN exchange quotes from an English paper, the Stamford *Mercury*, of November 4 last, the statement that

> In Kent, two large farms in one of the best parts of the eastern division have just been let at rentals of £10 a year. The holdings are about 240 acres each and the tenancies are to run for two years. Several other smaller farms have recently been let rent free.

This astonishing state of things is the result of free trade. There is no tariff on a agricultural products, and transportation rates have been so cheapened within the past decade that American and Indian wheat, American beef and pork, etc., can be sold in England cheaper than the farmers there can raise them.

WE agree that the tariff needs revision and amendment, to some extent. There are probably some rates of duty that might be reduced somewhat without injury, because the duty thereon more than marks the difference of cost of production between this country and Europe; and there are some rates which need to be higher—those on wool, and on tin plate, for instance. But we say that this revision must be made in the interest of American industries and American workingmen, and not by their enemies.

THE question of a government telegraph is likely to be before Congress, in a form that will elucidate the opinion of the law-making department upon it. No such measure should be entertained for a moment which did not provide for rendering the corps of employes independent of partisan removal. We must have civil service reform before we can add several housand additional places to the civil service.

NASBY.

I the rest. Gus was a dare devil sort of a fellow, but as brave and loyal a soldier as ever drew the saber. He served three years, and then re-inlisted as a veteran, and served till the regiment was discharged in November 1865. His service was with the carbine and sabre, and not as nurse in some hospital, or some other safe position, but always at the front. I don't think Col. Graham did his duty in allowing the repeated efforts of Gus to obtain justice, to go unrewarded, if he had it in his power to do him justice; and I don't think Gus will ever have justice done him till he gets all that was due him at the time of his discharge with 10 per cent interest up to the time of receiving the same. If officials in position to remedy this evil will not obtain justice for this comrade, I think the G. A. R. should take it in hand and see if there is any means of relieving this comrade of this burden of injustice heaped upon him by the officers under whom he served for four long years. Why official vengeance should all be directed at this individual comrade when he took no more prominent part in that bit of revolt than dozens of others did, is a mystery to me. If the editor of the CAMP FIRE could be enlisted in the just cause of this comrade, he would be gratefully remembered by every living member of the 7th Illinois Cavalry. My interest in this comrade, who wears the G. A. R. badge, should be the interest of every comrade that wears a badge of the Grand Army.—J. G. WOLVERTON, late of Co. C, 7th Ills. Cav., Effingham, Kan.

The Duty of the Hour.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE:—Well, comrades of the CAMP FIRE, I see that the editor has extended a general invitation to all comrades to contribute their mite to the adornments of the CAMP FIRE page and here I come toting my rail to add to the general blaze, and as we watch the bright sparks as they fly upward, we will fill ourselves in preparatory to a good old fashioned feast similar to the many such talks and social intimingle of days of service in the dear Away Down South in Dixie. It has been a long time since I shoved a faber, relating anything connected in any manner with the late unpleasantness. However, during the war, I was sort of an independent war correspondent and whiled away many an idle hour in camp writing for several Northern papers. But, owing to the scene changes instead of wielding a pen in the tented field, 'midst war's alarms, I now wield it in a miner's camp in the Rocky Mountains, 11,200 feet above sea level, and while I think of it I will pause to remark that the Toledo BLADE now lays beside me and I don't think it is read in a great many higher places, although I have seen it at the summit of Pike's Peak and that overreaches our altitude somewhat. This is what may be termed away up reading, but I digress. You will have to pardon the digression, as the BLADE has always been a favorite paper of mine, and I propose to say a good word in its favor whenever the opportunity offers. I am a Grand Army man of the first water, and the noble stand the BLADE has always taken in defense of the G. A. R. boys should endear it to every member of that grand organization. They should do all in their power to support it in its truly good work. Now I propose to tell you a few war stories of hard fought battles, hair-breadth escapes, or mention instances of personal daring. Although memory's store house is full to overrunning, I am on the political warpath and after the scalp of a noted individual, a personage that I think all old soldiers will have cause to remember for long years to come; the man who calls us "office-coolers" and "camp followers;" the man who takes peculiar pleasure in ridiculing the claims of thousands of poor, helpless cripples, who in the time of the Nation's dire distress, stood as a wall of fire between her and harm's reproach, and when the said cripple humbly asks this great and glorious government to give from its horded treasure a few dollars per month to lighten the burdens of life and

WHAT THE BLADE'S READERS THINK.

Letters Giving Expressions as to the Strongest and Best Republican Candidate for the Presidency.

We present another batch of letters, and the preferences of a large number of others. The situation has materially changed since the issuing of the President's message, and we had to condense in order to catch up with our letters.

LACYVILLE, O.—I would prefer to nearly all others as a candidate for President, a man who was a gallant Union soldier; such a man as Gen. Nathan Goff, of West Virginia; Gen. Harrison, of Indiana; Governor Foraker, of Ohio, or others that might be mentioned. The delegates to the Republican National convention should be men who have the welfare of their country at heart, and they should be sent unpledged to the support of any man.—YOUNG REPUBLICAN.

COVINGTON, IND.—I think that a man who was defeated by Cleveland, with his record, is not safe to try a second time. Robert T. Lincoln would make a strong nominee, I have no doubt, yet he is not my choice. Hon. J. B. Foraker is the man. Give us Foraker, with some New York man for Vice-President, and victory is ours, just as sure as the sun rises in the East.—ED. LA GROKOKY.

PERU, NEB.—Let the masses of the people be represented in the convention, and we will choose a patriot and statesman from the Republican ranks as chief magistrate of the nation.—J. W. STANDLEY.

NEW WASHINGTON, IND.—I have just returned from a trip through Kentucky and was agreeably surprised to hear men I know had been Democrats all their lives, declare themselves to support the Republican nominee, let him be who it will, but rather it would be Robert T. Lincoln, who is my choice among them all.—JOHN W. BERRY.

PERRY, MICH.—My preference is Robert T. Lincoln because of his availability. This was my impression several months ago, but having conversed with not a few persons, Republicans, Democrats, Third Party Prohibitionists, I find no one against, but I find St. John men and several that voted for Cleveland, that will vote for Robert T. Lincoln if he is nominated.—GILMAN WARREN.

WARRENSBURG, MO.—My first choice is Ben Harrison; the next, Bob Lincoln.—J. S. HOUTS.

WINONA, O.—The greatest advantage is to get the right man from the right state—and that is W. M. Evarts, of New York.—F. M.

MANHATTAN, KAN.—I was to young to vote for "Honest Abe" and to old to vote for James G. Blaine or Cleveland, so remained at home as hundreds of other Republican voters did, and as hundreds will if Blaine again receives the nomination. Let the people indicate their wishes so plainly that the politicians will not dare to cross them. If that is done I do not believe that more than one ballot would be required to nominate the peoples' choice.—JAY NYE.

ELIZABETHTOWN, TENN.—The only question worthy of discussion as to which one should be nominated is, availability. The party, as a party, is indebted to any man. These men owe their party nothing but true allegiance and gratitude for what it has done for them in the past. James G. Blaine could and will be nominated again if it is thought that he can be elected, and it would be suicide to undertake it. He fought in '84 and lost. The same circumstances that defeated him then would do so again in '88 and more easily, because we will not have the federal patronage to fight for us but against us. His nomination would be impolitic and would result in disastrous defeat to the party. Sherman, Edmunds, Foraker or Ingalls would make strong candidates, but we need them where they are now at the Senate, if we can find a man for the place without them. Sheridan would have many warm supporters on account of his military record, which stands as a model before the world inviting the future generations to behold it. His record as a soldier is unblemished, and his name would of itself be a magnet that would draw every old veteran to his support from Maine to California. But at the thought of the name of Lincoln at the head of the ticket for '88, Sheridan is overshadowed and relegated to the shades of his tent, there to remain till a more convenient season.—G. E. BOREN.

NEW BALTIMORE, MICH.—There is but one candidate, has been but one candidate, and will be but one candidate, while James G. Blaine is alive and well, with a large majority of the voters of our party, in all America. But is he available? Pshaw and pshaw, and a thousand times pshaw! God, and all honest men and women hate cowardice and ingratitude. Was Christ, was Washington, was Lincoln, were most all the good and great men and women of history not available, because they failed and failed—really or apparently—but had the opportunity to try again? Lincoln is young and can afford to wait.

Grant and the machine stole the nomination from the voters' choice once, rival candidates once, Grant and monarchists once, and finally, when the voters got a chance to vote for their choice, it seemed as though all the unhallowed influences that God permits to exist, combined to cheat them, and defeat the election of James G. Blaine.—S. L. MILLER.

HUTCHINSON, KAN.—Those few men who are opposed to R. T. Lincoln continue to assert that the fact that he is the son of Abraham Lincoln is the only reason why so many people in every state and territory are asking for his nomination. The only advantage he has of being Abraham Lincoln's son is that he is universally known because of that fact—as well, or better known, than any man in America who is not a politician. The people have known him intimately ever since he was a child, and they know all about him—his purity of moral character and ability to perform every duty of that office.—REV. J. W. PAYNE.

BELLEVILLE, KAN.—Here is a straw vote, taken election day in this township: Of 60 votes taken 38 were for R. T. Lincoln, 7 for Sherman, 6 for Cleveland, 1 for Blaine, 2 for Powderly, 1 for Manning, and 5 undecided. Take notice: several that voted Lincoln did so thinking he could not be nominated. I think this township is a good representative of this (Republic) county.—F. A. THOMPSON.

SILVER LAKE, WASH TER.—My choice for President is the man who most of all has earned that distinction. Any of the men who have given their time, intelligence and work in the interest of the country for the longest time. This is grateful and fair. I do not care to give preference; it may be Sherman or any of the other distinguished statesmen, but I want for President a man who has been before the country and people so long that he is well known and understood.—F. R. WAHLBERG.

MILTON, IOWA.—The Republicans must lay down this rule: "The candidate of the National Convention in 1888 must be chosen because of availability, not ability." Yet it is essential to choose some man who combines ability with availability—some man who will be an ornament to the party and the chair we expect him to fill. That man is James G. Blaine.—G. W. EDMONSON.

GLEN ELDER (no state).—I voted for John Sherman some time ago. I did not think of Lincoln then, but voted for Sherman then because of his common sense, statesmanship, irreproachable character and candor. I do not believe he could be elected, or I would favor him yet. The old political war horses have too many opponents in their own ranks. If Blaine were nominated the same men who defeated him before would help him over again. Robert Lincoln has none of these, and the common people regard with suspicion a man who makes a business of politics, and will believe all the political lies. Cleveland will run as well as before, and the Democrats are confident of his re-election, and I believe R. T. Lincoln is the only man who has any positive show of defeating him.—D. L. BREWER.

ANOKA, IND.—I am for Lincoln and Hawley. Why? With these two men we can carry the solid North, and with the popularity of Lincoln we can secure two or three of the Southern states. With Hawley's popularity we can secure Connecticut and New York easily. Ben Harrison cannot carry Indiana. With Blaine's several defeats in the conventions, and once in the race, I do not think that we could be successful.—LOUIS LEEDY.

CENTRE, O.—Any of the Republican leaders suggested to head the ticket in '88 would, no doubt, make an excellent President. But the questions, Who can be elected? I answer, The man who can thoroughly unite the Republican party. "The Republicans elected Grover Cleveland," says Senator Evarts; and it would be unwise for our Blaine friends to let the lesson of '84 go by unheeded. The will of the people is supreme, and their voice must be heard on this question, and that voice says in accents clear, "Give us Robert T. Lincoln."—V. A. THOXSELL.

HOPEWELL, O.—I am for John Sherman, of Ohio, and I will tell you why. In all his speeches he emphatically demands a square vote and an honest count all over the United States, especially for President.—J. W. VANDENBACK, late 20th Ind.

PAOLA, KAN.—If I should be a delegate in the National convention next year, I will vote first and until a nomination is had, for J. B. Foraker, because while almost all Republicans are true and loyal, Foraker, since the death of Logan, is the most intensely red-hot loyal leader in the Nation.—J. W. BEATY.

LAGRANGE, MO.—Recently the editor of the Lexington, Mo., *Register* sent out circulars to the editors of the weekly Republican papers of this state asking for an expression of their preferences for President. Twenty-seven replies were received as follows: Lincoln, 13; Sherman, 8; Blaine, 3; Harrison, 1; non-committal, 2. This is a tolerable fair expression of Republican sentiment in this state, which is rather inclined to be slightly Democratic, but not hopelessly so; for with a united Republican front, with an aggressive and vigorous campaign like that recently made in Ohio, poor old Bourbon Missouri may be added to the Republican states.—C. H. HOWS.

OLESBURG, KAN.—Give us any one of those last men for the first place, and any one of them or Conkling for the second place, to bear the battle-flag aloft, and we will charge Grover and his brigadiers "once more, again."—JAMES LOGSDON.

The following named readers express themselves in favor of James G. Blaine: C. H. West, Lincoln, Neb.; Will McClarren, Tres Piedras, N. M.; J. E. Cox, Mingo, Neb.; G. Shabel, Lockport, N. Y.; H. A. Halverstads, Leetonia, O.; O. A. Taylor, Minneapolis, Minn.; J. W. Slenker, Knob Lick, Ky.; J. C. Givin, Pleasant Ridge, Ind.; W. C. Farr, Tiffin, O.; M. E. Lapham, Champaign, Ill.; G. H. Kimball, Golden, Colo.; C. M. Rice, Agricola, Kan.; Wm. Major, Brookville, Iowa; L. H. Andrews, Tipton, Iowa; Will Walter, Pleasant Unity, Pa.; F. J. Storm, Glenwood, Mo.; J. H. M. Athens, Ill.; R. W. Rutherford, Cairo, W. Va.; W. S. S. Norfolk, Va.; L. D. Bevens, Mulberry Grove, Kan.

The following correspondents express themselves favorable to Robert T. Lincoln's candidacy: John T. Van Keuren, late 5th Tenn. Cav., Sioux City, Iowa; J. M. Cooper, Soldiers' Home, Dayton, O.; J. M. Jones, Dunkirk, Ohio (who is equally in favor of Forsker); H. C. Lammer, Georgetown, D. C.; Marshall Pepper, Sidney, O.; S. Perrine, Gray, Iowa; J. E. Meloit, Mench, Pa.; H. W. McRill, Maquon, Ill.; J. Sampson, Excelsior, Minn.; A. H. Seward, Ganoga, Pa.; S. B. Phillips, Rosemond, Ill.; J. Q. Adams, Montague, Tex.; J. M. Evans, Wilsey, Kan.; F. M. Grover, North Topeka, Kan.; E. S. Bronson, Adrian, W. Va.; "Young Republican," Sego, Kan.; E. E. Vance, jr., Malvern, Ark.; J. W. Faulkner, Stillwater, Ky.; J. M. Merrill, Sparta, Mich.; A. D. Crosby, Uniontown, Kan.; C. H. Hall, St. Andrew's Bay, Fla.; D. W. Thuma, Oregon, Mo.; "Blade Reader," Calloway, Neb.; O. D. Dwinnell, Humboldt, Kan.; O. McLahlan, Bartlettsville, Ind.; John Games, Swanee, (no state); L. M. Howes, Pembroke, N. Y.; John C. Tiffany, Glen Elder, Kan.; Jacob, G. Matlick, Kirksville, Mo.; B. F. Higgins, Blackford Co., Ind.; M. A. Hodgkins, Bonkelman, Neb.; W. A. Kinsey, Tyaska, Ill.; W. Van Wey, Mounds, Ill.; J. F. Robbins, Lawrence Sta., N. J.; J. F. Hight, Samoth, Ill.; G. E. Morris, Clearville, Pa.; "Subscriber," Amargo, N. M.; John Abrahamson, Palestine, Neb.; J. R. Hyatt, Ducktown, Tenn.; A. L. Green, Mattoon, Ill.; W. H. Schenck, Sterling, Colo.; A. G. Bosworth, Cedar Bluffs, Kan.

GEN. VILAS'S REPORT.

The Postmaster General's Annual Presented to the President.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—Postmaster General Vilas has presented his report to the President. It is a lengthy document, the leading points of which are herewith printed. The report presents an account of the transactions of this department and the operations of the postal service during the year ended with the 30th of June, 1887, the second complete fiscal year of this administration.

The expectation of growth and improvement in the affairs of the postal service, indulged in previous reports, has been realized during the past year. In part arising from an extension of the limits of mailable matter of the fourth class—ordered to meet the requirements of trade—and from the receipts of the special delivery service, but chiefly from the greater employment of all postal facilities consequent upon the rising business prosperity of the country, faithfully reflected in the postal service, the revenues have gained upon the preceding year by nearly $4,840,000, attaining a height never reached before, despite the restrictive operation of various reductions in the rates of postage. Upon the other hand, the study of economy has not been without effect in restraining the necessarily rising scale of expenditure, so that the increase of cash disbursements has but little overstepped $2,000,000.

"It is proper, also, parenthetically, to add that expansion of the power and usefulnessness of the service has kept pace with its improved fiscal condition by much increase in the number of its postoffices, of its employes, of its routes and mileage of mail transportation, by additions to its fast mail, and other special features, and, indeed, in every branch of its work.

AGAINST A LOWER POSTAGE RATE.

In this promising condition special interests may be expected to vigorously press for a reduction in rates of postage in some class of mail matter, always of specious appearance or popularity; indeed, their organization "for the improvement of the postal service" is already begun; but the general interest will perhaps rather require that a reduction of the rates of postage shall be deferred to a somewhat later period. The time is probably not distant, when, if the wisest measures of economy be pursued, the rate of charge upon letters can be properly lowered to one cent an ounce, and some diminishment permitted in the postage upon merchandise and other matter. But the letter postage of the United States is now fixed at a rate below that of other countries, and, when the distances of transportation are considered, are cheaper than in any other. And the combined receipts from all mail matter not of the first class fall far short of the cost of its handling; affording little claim, therefore, for less postage charges.

The whole number of postoffices on the last day of October had become 55,634, of which 2,381 were salaried or Presidential offices, and 53,053 were fourth class. Besides these, were 625 branch offices or stations, an increase of 12 for the sale of stamps only. Of the whole, 8,089 were money-order offices and 110 money-order stations.

THE APPOINTMENTS OF POSTMASTERS

numbered altogether during the fiscal year 13,079, of which 6,863 were to fill vacancies happening upon the expiration of commissions or by resignations; 2,584 upon removals or suspensions; 589 by death; and 3,043 to newly established offices. Among these appointments, 893 were upon your commission to vacancies which happened from the causes and in the respective numbers following: By expiration of commission, 350; by resignation, 122; by removal or suspension, 237; by death, 39; and upon the assignment of fourth-class offices to a Presidential class, 145.

The following table of appointments since 1885 will be interesting:

New appointments:	
On expiration of commissions	876
On voluntary resignations	475
On deaths	65
On suspensions or removals	509
Reappointments on expiration of commissions	27
New appointments in offices become Presidential	28
Reappointments in offices become Presidential	170
Total cases of action	2,150
Offices unchanged since March 4, 1885	313

To ascertain the number of postmasters of this class who have remained in office prior to the change of administration, allowance must be made of the then existing offices since discontinued, estimated at 2,144; and thereupon subtracting the number of the changed officers, as above found, the number still remaining would be 18,491, or a little above 39 per cent. of the incumbents of offices then existing and not since abolished.

THE FINANCIAL EXHIBIT.

The past four years constitute an interesting epoch in the financial history of the postal service. The fiscal year 1882 closed with a cash surplus of about $1,400,000; and the year 1883 increased the amount to nearly $2,000,000. With the single exception of the year 1865, there had been an annual deficiency in the revenues of the service to meet its expenditures for 30 years, sometimes of large, at others of small sums. Upon the concurrence of two years of surplus, the rate of letter postage was reduced from 3 to 2 cents, thus striking from the revenue one-third of its principal supply. This change took effect on October 1, 1883, and was directly operative during but nine months of the fiscal year 1884. Its effect was marked, necessarily, and at the end of the year the historic deficiency was again restored to the ledger in the sum of three and a quarter millions.

The increase in the employment of the service expected from cheapening of rates did not appear in the following year; but the revenue continued to diminish and the expenses to increase so that the 30th of June, 1885, found a balance of nearly $7,000,000 against the service to be defrayed by the general treasury. This result was due, beyond doubt, to the general business depression prevailing from the autumn of 1883 in the financial circles of the country, and the inference seems fairly indicated that the volume of the mails and the employment of the postal service depend less upon the differences in the rates of postage, when already low, than upon the condition of general affairs, by which the service becomes more or less desirable to business men. The later results add to the apparent correctness of this deduction.

The report closes with a reference to the exterior marks on second class matter, and says the law is enforced because it is on the statute books and must be.

THE INTERIOR.

Report of Secretary Lamar for the Year Ending June 30.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—Secretary Lamar has presented his annual report. It is a voluminous document. Perhaps the most difficult and important duty with which this department is charged is the administration of the public land system. The theater of its operations embraces nearly three-fourths of the area of the American states and territories, and the vital influence exercised by the distribution of land ownership among the people renders the proper administration of the system of profound importance to the present and future prosperity of the country.

The following amounts of lands have been restored to the public domain since March 4, 1885:

	Acres.
Area within railroad limits	8,958,177.33
Area within railroad indemnity limits	21,323,600.00
Private land claims	576,000.00
Fraudulent entries canceled	400,000.00
Invalid swamp and other state selections canceled	566,704.46
Total restored to the public domain	31,824,481.79

From the report of the commissioner of the general land office it appears that the number of acres of land disposed of during the past fiscal year, under the various acts of Congress authorizing sales, entries, and selections, aggregates 25,111,400.84, of which 746,657.29 acres were Indian lands, 5, 811,807.33 railroad selections, and 2,108,431.43 selections under other grants; the aggregate amount showing an increase of 4,862,525.55 acres as compared with the previous year.

The receipts from disposal of the public lands were $10 883,921.72; from sales of Indian lands, $1,484,362.30; a total of $12,268,224.02; and increase over the previous year of $3,247,727.08. To which is to be added $8,291 received on account of timber depredations, and $12,493 85 received for certified copies of records furnished by the general land office, making receipts of that bureau from all sources $12,289,009.87.

The total number of entries and filings made during the year was 248,178, covering 38,337,039.41 acres; an increase of 1,770 over the previous year; whilst the number of original homestead entries was 52,028, covering an area of 7,594,350.16 acres; a decrease of 9,610 entries and 1,550,785 60 acres.

In the matter of unlawful enclosure of public lands the secretary repeats his message of 1886.

The statistics compiled from the annual reports of the various United States Indian agents to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs represents that of the remaining 173,000 Indians under their supervision, about 58,000 wear citizens' clothing wholly; that 16,477 houses are occupied by them; that about 25,000 can speak English with sufficient intelligence for ordinary conversation; that more than 10,500 of their children are in schools receiving educational and industrial training, for whom 237 school are in operation, and that over 31,000 families are engaged in industrial pursuits.

They have cultivated over 238,000 acres, built over 295,000 rods of fencing, produced over 750,000 bushels of wheat, 950,000 bushels of corn, 402,000 bushels of oats, 68,000 bushels of barley and rye, 514,000 bushels of vegetables, and 83,000 pounds of butter. Besides the above they have gathered for use and sale considerable quantities of wild rice, berries, herbs, furs, fish and snake root, etc. They have sawed 1,552,079 feet of lumber, cut 74,000 cords of wood, and 102,000 tons of hay. They own over 392,000 horses, 3,000 mules, 113,000 cattle, 46,000 swine, and 1,120,000 sheep. Drouths have seriously affected the yield of their crops the past year.

The act for the allotment of land in severalty is warmly commended, and the various Indian outbreaks are reviewed at length, in substance the same as printed in these dispatches from time to time.

On the subject of pensions the secretary says this country is more liberal than other countries, and less distinction is made on account of rank.

The last year's request of the patent office for more room is repeated.

The report on inter-state commerce is substantially as printed in these dispatches some days since.

The bureau of labor and the bureau of education each receive considerable attention, but it is a repetition of what has already been printed.

—The wisest are not always so; the great make great mistakes. But there can be no mistake in using Wanner's *Log Cabin* Rose Cream, if you want to free yourself of that noisome catarrh. The disease yields to its power at once. 50c. All druggists.

HIS DARLING DAUGHTER.

A Fond Father Expresses His Feelings in Two Chapters.

To his son-in-law elect Mr. Gordenhauer says:

"So you want to take my little girl away from her old father, do you, my boy? Ah, well, I suppose it must be so," wiping his eyes. "But the home nest will be a lonely place with our merry little Katie gone. It is hard to give her up, and you must bring her to us as often as you can. And don't take her from us too soon. I am selfish enough to wish that I might keep her with me always, but I will not stand in the way of her happiness. So take her, my boy, be kind to her, and God bless you both!"

To his wife Mr. Gardenhauer says:

"So Kit's off our hands at last. I'm deuced glad of it. Over had those millinery and dressmaking bills would bankrupt an Astor in ten years. Hurry up the wedding soon as you can. We don't want the expense of Kit another season, now that there's nothing to gain by it. I pity Asa if he can't keep her going on less than it's cost me the last three years. Say, when Maude and Laura are off our hands we can save up a little something and have some pence of our lives. They shan't one of 'em come home to visit oftener than twice a year.—*Tid-Bits.*"

Johnny's Composition on Geese.

Geeses are the biggest birds known to the human eye, and the he one is a gander. The gander is the monark of the air, but the rooster can lick him, cos the rooster he is brave like General Solmon, but the gander isent fighty, more like preachers. The goose is a sailer, but not a wicked one like Jack Brily, wich chews tobacko, and sweats, and every thing, and he has got letthers from home, but he loss fer to walk the wotter liek a thing of life. Ducks they are sailers, too, but the swon has got a long neck like a giraft, and wen it is got a sore throte it is mighty sick. The little gooses is goslums and is green. My sister, she see a goslum and she asked Uncle Ned wot made it green, and he said, Uncle Ned did, that it was cos it wasent ripe. Then Billy, he spoke up and said wen it was ripe it would be picked. And now I will tell you a story.—*San Francisco Examiner.*

—Its thousands of cures are the best advertisement for Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy.

How a Joke Lived.

I never met anybody who had not a pet joke which he would tell with the most profound enjoyment as often as he could get a chance. I remember once at a big mess in the far East a new man came along and when he got hold of a bottle of beer he said sententiously: "Beer flils many a bottle, and a bottle flils many a bier." They laughed, and he used to get this thing off before every stranger who came to the table. It got tiresome. One evening there was a crowd at dinner, and just as he was getting ready to fire it off the gentleman at the head of the table rose up with a glass of beer in his hand and said solemnly: "Gentlemen, beer flils many a bottle." The gentleman at the foot of the table rose after him and said equally solemnly: "And the bottle flils many a bier." This ceremony they kept up for a while every night to break the joker. Then fresh officers stepped in, and for years that ceremony was gone through every night at the mess table until it became a kind of religious one, handed down from each head of the mess to his successor.—*San Francisco Chronicle.*

He Was Not Engaged.

One day last week a lady student at Cornell University discovered that her name was incorrectly given in the list of students, and hastened to the Registrar's office to have the error corrected. "Are you engaged just now?" was the first question asked the Registrar, in blissful ignorance of the lady's mission, and whose mind evidentally was wondering in matrimonial channels. "No, indeed," replied the gallant official, with some little emphasis, his face at the same time becoming the very embodiment of pleasant anticipations of the approaching leap year. "Well, then, I should like to change my name," said the fair visitor. "Oh, you would!" gasped the young man, his countenance radiant beyond all expression. And the young lady undertook to explain matters more in detail, much to the discomfiture of the assistant. The story got out, and now there is hilarity in all the college circles.

—Coffee Substitute is economy and quality combined. Costs but one-tenth as much as cheapest Rio. Dyspepsia demands Coffee Substitute. Purchased any where. Sample package and recipe for one dollar. —CHASE & CO., Sparta, O.

A Promising Young Capitalist.

Miss Sleepy, of St. Louis, to her cousin, Miss Sprightly, of Kansas City, who has come down for a little rest—"Antoine is 16 years old to-day. He has discarded his knickerbockers, will remain home from school all day, and will dine with the family. He is so grieved that you did not bring your brother Bob. They are just of an age."

Miss Sprightly—"O, Bob couldn't come. Just at the last minute some Boston capitalists arrived, and he is figuring with them on a big deal. Then, too, he is just closing out 'Sprightly Place' and getting the iron down on his dummy line. It's too bad, but business is business."—*Kansas City Times.*

Apparel for Other's Benefit.

The necktie is the only part of a man's dress which he wears solely for others and not for himself. Even his jewelled studs serve to keep his shirt together; his hat, coat, trousers, etc., protect him from the cold and from the wet. But his necktie, and that alone, he wears in order to mitigate his appearance in the eyes of others. Hence its mission is a species of affront to all the world.

Have you heard of Tokology? 90,000 sold.

The Rural New-Yorker

stands easily at the head of the agricultural journals of America. Its strikingly original features and the care with which it is edited, render it the most trustworthy exponent of agricultural thought in the country. It is in no sense sectional, circulating, as it does, wherever the English language is spoken. It is wholly original and pays more for contributions than any other journal of its class.

The establishment of the EXPERIMENT GROUNDS (82 acres) of the RURAL NEW-YORKER in 1877 marked a new era in farm journalism, and they are now recognized by its readers, as well as by the press in general, as having aided the interests of American Agriculture and Horticulture more than any other one agency.

Its ILLUSTRATIONS are a strong feature, being drawn from *nature* by our best artists. Over 500 are presented yearly. New fruits of all kinds, grain, live stock, ornamental trees and shrubs, grasses and flowers are faithfully shown, while its trenchant cartoons are powerful aids in the study of how best to enjoy rural life.

The RURAL NEW-YORKER has over 600 contributors, among them the best practical farm writers in the world. Its *Literary, Domestic Economy, Woman's Work, News* and *Market* Departments are certainly unsurpassed. It will *please every member of the family*; it is pure in tone, and fearlessly exposes all fraudulent schemes, devices or advertisements. It is a Farm, Garden, Religious, News, Home and Literary journal—*all in one.* The best people in America will indorse the above claims. Ask them. *Send for specimen copies* and judge for yourselves. The RURAL NEW-YORKER is a 16-page weekly, printed on fine, natural colored paper, and the price is $2.00 a year. It was established in 1850. Address The RURAL NEW-YORKER, 34 Park Row, N. Y.

OBSERVE—*The Toledo* BLADE *and the Rural New-Yorker, both one year for only $2.50.*

Publishers' Column.

THE UNION OR FAMILY SCALE.

The price of this Scale is $5.00, and we offer with THE WEEKLY BLADE one year for $4.25. Useful in any family. Weighs from ½ oz. up to 240 lbs.

These scales are sent by express or freight at the expense of the purchaser. Address

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

ANEROID BAROMETER.

As a fitting successor to the celebrated Waterbury watch, of which the BLADE has sold nearly twenty thousand, we offer the Aneroid barometer in nickel-plated case, with suspensory ring and feet to stand on mantel, enameled open card dial 2¾ inches in diameter, glass front with indicator and register-pointer, for brass hand) which, when set over indicator shows whether the barometer is rising or falling. This is a most complete and useful instrument. The protection they now afford to life and property throughout the world by foretelling weather changes and the approach of violent storms is worth millions of dollars every year. The U. S. Signal Service says: "After investigating 600 tornadoes we have found that a fall of the barometer goes before a storm." The barometer falls usually from 12 to 48 hours before a rain, and from "much rain" to "stormy," a few hours before a violent storm. No farmer or other person whose work has to be done out of doors, or whose property is liable to damage or loss by rain, can afford to do without one. Many a time one will save five times its cost in a single day. Before a storm reaches you it will tell you whether it will be light or dangerous. It will tell you when to cut grass with safety, and how long you can leave hay or grain out to dry, when to sow seed before a rain, and if you intend going to a fair or festival with your family, whether you will have a pleasant day of comfort and enjoyment, or a day of rain and discomfort. No person owning a good barometer will ever consent to do without it.

This instrument must not be compared with the cheap glass instruments that the country has been flooded with. It is made on scientific principles and is as fine a piece of mechanism as the most expensive watch. It retails regularly at $5, but having ordered a large quantity made for clubbing with the BLADE, we are enabled to offer the BLADE one year, and one of these barometers prepaid to any address on receipt of $4.50. Address

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

STEEL ENGRAVING OF BUNYAN'S PILGRIM'S PROGRESS,

We have a few copies left of this elegant $10 steel-plate engraving, which has heretofore been described at length in the BLADE. We have sent out several thousand in connection with the BLADE, and they have all given excellent satisfaction. Until our stock is exhausted, or until further notice, we will send to any address one of these engravings and the WEEKLY BLADE one year for $2.

ORDER EARLY FOR CHRISTMAS.

Those of our readers who contemplate ordering Blade Sewing Machines, Books or Pictures for Holiday presents, should get in their orders early. We are prepared to fill orders promptly, but some allowance should be made for the unusually large number of orders always poured in upon us just before Holidays. Just now our sewing machine trade is very large, which is justified by the excellence of the machine we sell at so low a price. There is a remarkable demand for the picture, "Christ before Pilate," but we are prepared to supply the demand. The new portraits of Lincoln and Talmage are also going rapidly, as well as all the portraits of the BLADE'S publication. The books we announce elsewhere are especially appropriate for Holiday presents.

CHRIST BEFORE PILATE.

Munckassy's celebrated painting of "Christ Before Pilate" is one of the grandest paintings of modern times. This painting recently sold for $120,000 cash. Everybody is familiar with its history. Briefly described, it represents the figure of our Savior with his hands bound, erect, composed, gazing steadfastly on the face of Pilate, who sits in judgment on the throne. Around and behind crowd the rabble of Jerusalem, some frantic, others idlers. Also conspicuously appear in the scene Caiaphas the accuser, Roman soldier holding the mob in check, two elders, a rich banker, a young rowdy, a young mother holding child, and others apparently bent on killing time. The BLADE has purchased a large quantity of Photo Etchings of this celebrated painting, printed on heavy plate paper, size 21x28 inches. This photo etching is a fac-simile of the original picture, and a perfect reproduction. It has been always sold for one dollar. We have determined to sell thousands of them very quickly, and therefore offer them postpaid by mail to our readers at 25 cents each. Address the BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

THE BLADE'S PORTRAIT GALLERY.

We have published ten different portraits, which we offer to our readers at a price that will enable all to decorate their homes cheaply and well, viz:—

MILITARY HEROES—Grant, Sherman, Sheridan and Logan.

RELIGIOUS HEROES—John Wesley, Charles Wesley, Martin Luther, John Calvin and Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage.

EMINENT MEN—Robert Lincoln.

These portraits are all printed upon heavy plate paper, size 19 by 24 inches, just the size for framing for the parlor or sitting room, and good enough for any house in the land. They are all exquisite works of art, and are certain to give satisfaction. We pack them securely in pasteboard tubes and send them postpaid at the following prices:

Any one portrait	$ 25
The five divines	80
The four generals	85
The entire set of ten	1 40

Agents can do a good thing for themselves selling these pictures. Special rates made known upon application. Address

BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

TO TEMPERANCE WORKERS.

Important and Effective Helps—Two Indispensable Documents.

At the request of thousands of Temperance organizations, we have printed and have ready for delivery, the following important documents:

1. **Does Prohibition Prohibit? Being the truthful result of a tour through Maine, by D. R. Locke, Editor of the Blade. An impartial, truthful presentation of the subject, and every line a fact.**
2. **The Effect of Beer upon the Human System, being the testimony of Ten of the Most Eminent Physicians of Toledo, Ohio, as to the effect of Lager Beer, showing how the use of the stuff affects the various organs of the Human body.**

These documents are printed in eight large pages each, and should be circulated every where in the United States. No more telling matter was ever printed, and no more useful help was ever devised in the great work of "Pulverizing the Rum Power."

Prohibition Committees, Temperance organizations, open and secret, should spread them by the million.

We furnish them at cost of printing, posting, and packing, as follows:

10,000 lots	$30 00
1,000 lots	5 00
500 lots	4 00
100 lots	1 00

Sample dozen, by mail, post-paid, 25 cents. Single copies each, 5 cents.

Order at once and spread the light. If yo want your neighbor to know exactly what Prohibition has done for Maine send for the leaflet on that subject, and if you want him to know what Beer is doing for the world send for the other. Both should be circulated by the million.

Address, (enclosing cash,) BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

Temperance Cartoons — To Temperance Workers and Organizations.

We have published for as near gratuitous circulation as possible, five striking cartoons, illustrating the working of Rum as opposed to Temperance, of which millions have been sold all over the United States. They are intended to instruct the people through the eye. They are as follows:

No. 1.—Do you see any good coming out of it?

No. 2.—Which way would you have your Boy Go?

No. 3.—Which way would you have your Girl Go?

No. 4.—In which village would you bring up your Children?

No. 5.—This Farmer never drank Whisky. This Farmer drinks all he can get.

These pictures are the most effective instruments that have ever been published. They contrast the life of the drunkard and sober man, in property, wife and children, so sharply that he who runs may read, and understand as well Millions of them have been passed up in shops, on fences and dead walls, where they may be seen of men, and millions more should be.

We have made a price on these cartoons, which barely covers the cost of paper and postage:

Three copies of either	5 cents.
Six copies	10 cents.
Twenty-five copies	30 cents.
One Hundred copies	One dollar.

This gives no profit, the price covering only cost of printing, paper and postage. We contribute wrapping-paper and labor.

Send in your orders immediately, and paste them up where they will do the most good.

L. S. L.

CAPITAL PRIZE, $150,000

"We do hereby certify that we supervise the arrangements for all the Monthly and Semi-Annual Drawings of The Louisiana State Lottery Company, and in person manage and control the Drawings themselves, and that the same are conducted with honesty, fairness, and in good faith toward all parties, and we authorize the Company to use this certificate, with fac-similes of our signatures attached, in its advertisements."

G. T. Beauregard
J. A. Early
Commissioners.

We, the undersigned Banks and Bankers will pay all Prizes drawn in the Louisiana State Lotteries which may be presented at our counters.

J. H. OGLESBY, Pres. Louisiana Nat'l Bank.
P. LANAUX, Pres. State Nat'l Bank.
A. BALDWIN, Pres. New Orleans Nat'l Bank.
CARL KOHN, Pres. Union National Bank.

UNPRECEDENTED ATTRACTION!

Over Half a Million Distributed.

Louisiana State Lottery Company

Incorporated in 1868 for 25 years by the Legislature for Educational and Charitable purposes—with a capital of $1,000,000—to which a reserve fund of over $350,000 has since been added.

By an overwhelming popular vote its franchise was made a part of the present State Constitution adopted December 2d, A. D., 1879.

The only Lottery ever voted on and endorsed by the people of any State.

It never sells or postpones.

Its Grand Single Number Drawings take place monthly, and the Semi-Annual Drawings regularly every six months (June and December.)

A SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY TO WIN A FORTUNE. FIRST GRAND DRAWING, CLASS A, IN THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC, NEW ORLEANS, TUESDAY, January 10, 1888.—212th Monthly Drawing.

CAPITAL PRIZE, $150,000.

☞ **Notice.—Tickets are Ten Dollars only. Halves, $5. Fifths, $2. Tenths, $1.**

LIST OF PRIZES.

1	CAPITAL PRIZE OF	$150,000 ... $150,000
1	GRAND PRIZE OF	50,000 ... 50,000
1	GRAND PRIZE OF	20,000 ... 20,000
2	LARGE PRIZES OF	10,000 ... 20,000
4	LARGE PRIZES OF	5,000 ... 20,000
20	PRIZES OF	1,000 ... 20,000
100	"	500 ... 50,000
100	"	300 ... 30,000
200	"	200 ... 40,000
500	"	100 ... 50,000

APPROXIMATION PRIZES.

100	Approximation Prizes of $300	... $ 30,000
100	" " 200	... 20,000
100	" " 100	... 10,000
1,000	Terminal	50 ... 50,000
2,179	Prizes, amounting to	$555,000

Application for rates to clubs should be made only to the office of the Company in New Orleans.

For further information write clearly, giving full address. POSTAL NOTES, Express Money Orders or New York Exchange in ordinary letter. Currency by Express (at our expense) addressed to

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New Orleans, La.
Washington, D. C.

Address Registered Letters to
NEW ORLEANS NATIONAL BANK,
New Orleans, La.

REMEMBER That the presence of Generals Beauregard and Early, who are in charge of the drawings, is a guarantee of absolute fairness and that the chances are all equal, and that no one can possibly divine what number will draw a Prize.

REMEMBER The payment of all Prizes is GUARANTEED BY FOUR NATIONAL BANKS of New Orleans, and the Tickets are signed by the President of an Institution, whose chartered rights are recognized in the highest Courts; therefore, beware of any imitations or anonymous schemes.

A SILENT PROTECTOR for Gents, only 25 cents. Ladies' Shield, 50 cents. Invisible Shields, 50 cents, $ for $1. Silent Assistant, 50 cents; one of each $1. French Rubber Co., Box 127, Boston, Mass.

OUR CLUB LIST

We have arranged to club the BLADE with either of the following publications for the prices annexed (postage prepaid):

WEEKLIES.	Their Price.	With BLADE

The Household.

MISS EMILY S. BOUTON - - - - EDITOR.

HOME TALKS.

HOMES FOR WORKING WOMEN.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

One great trouble—I might almost say the great trouble—with which working women have to contend is the difficulty of finding homes that come within their reach in a money way—not simply places to stay in, but real homes, with warmth and comfort such as make life seem worth living. To go to some cold, cheerless place with meager surroundings, and still more meager food served without refinement—if indeed they are not obliged to buy and serve it for themselves—after an exhausting day's work, is not conducive to the cultivation of contentment and satisfaction, and, shall I add?—to morality. No one need be shocked at that remark, for it is, alas, too sure that hundreds upon hundreds of young girls in large cities accept a life of shame simply because they see beyond its entrance, light and ease and luxury. They do not know, for experience has not unfolded the truth, that the other side of all that brightness and comfort stretches a bleak and dreary future, filled with untold misery. They dream that youth, and the power it gives, is eternal, or, what is more likely, they only think of the to-day and its desires which are hungering to be gratified.

I remember, some two or three years ago, about the time the Hotel Industry was established in Toledo, a young girl, pretty, and ordinarily intelligent, who was clerking in a store, receiving the pittance of three dollars a week, with which she was expected to pay all of her expenses. How did she live, do you think? Exactly as you might expect. She had a hall bedroom with no fire even with the mercury at zero. The only place where she could find warmth was in the kitchen, in a crowd of men who also boarded in the house. They may have been good in their way, and honest of purpose, and they may not, I do not know, but it was certainly no place for a girl like that. It was this, however, or, if she tired of it, the street, and perhaps worse. In fact, there is little question but that this inability to earn enough to have the comforts of a refined home drives many a poor girl into temptation, when other surroundings would have held them to lives as pure and self respecting as those of the sheltered daughters in happy homes.

It is a well-known fact that in certain stores in Chicago—and I do not doubt it is true of some other places—the girls employed are expected to eke out their meager earnings by finding a "gentleman friend"—what a fearful mockery of the name of friend—and if they remonstrate about the smallness of their pay, they are brutally reminded of this expectation. This is no fancy or exaggeration, but a terrible truth.

At the time of the beginning of the work which has resulted in the successful establishment of a home, with substantial comforts for the working-women of Toledo who are strangers in the city, those having it in charge were several times curtly informed, in answer to their solicitations, something like this: "I do not believe in helping these girls to stay out of the kitchen. Let them go to work where they can get good wages and a comfortable home for the asking."

There was no use in stopping to argue the question, although it was the most arrant nonsense. As well cut down the wages of all male clerks and book-keepers to starvation point, in order to drive them out into the fields in harvest time, when it is so difficult to obtain help there. Aside from the fact that many of these girls are no more fitted by temperament and training for household service than the man bred to office work is to working in iron, we must take things as we find them, and what is possible towards improvement.

It is equally in vain to inveigh against employers because they do not pay higher wages. This is a day when competition in all directions has reached a white heat, and while there are many who could do better by their employes, if they would, there are many others who must get cheap labor or give up their business entirely. I do not include in either class those men with the instincts of beasts spoken of further back, but of respectable business people who are in the race after wealth. The only thing to do is to cast about for the best means of solving the problem, and one of the very best, it seems to me, is to place pleasant, comfortable homes within the reach of young girls, who, from necessity, or a desire for self-dependence, have gone to a city of strangers, all unknowing what trials and temptations they must meet. It is of far greater importance to help people to keep in the right way, than to let them go astray, unheeded, and then work to bring them back. One of the strongest influences in doing his is that of the home, or what comes the nearest to it in its creature comforts, its refined belongings, and its tendencies to right action. It is for the interest of society to afford such, when it can be done without detracting from the self-dependence of the individual. That it is possible in every city in the country by co-operation and skillful management has been demonstrated in Toledo, and elsewhere.

The reference further back to employers brought to mind the fact that there are those who have the interest of their employes so much at heart, recognizing also the truth that whatever tends to procure hearty service, is for their own interest, that they have made the most careful arrangements for their comfort out of working hours. One of the most notable examples is that of Warner Brothers, a large manufacturing firm in Bridgeport, Connecticut, who have founded what is known as the Seaside Institute for the benefit of the women and girls who work for a living, more especially those employed in their own factory. The following description taken from the *Republican Standard* of that city, will be read with interest, for it shows that there are those who understand that the true philosophy is to benefit oneself by what will most benefit others:

To carry on their noble ideas an expenditure of $100,000 was not too much for them to make. Time may cause the bricks and mortar of this institute to crumble, but the memory of these philanthropists and their work will live forever. The building at the corner of Lafayette and Atlantic streets and adjoining the factories is of rock-faced red granite in ornamental style, 70 feet front by 70 feet deep, the upper stories being of prepared brick trimmed in brown stone. The entrance is simple and in keeping with the general character for liberality of the whole structure. A hallway extends entirely through the building, and at its rear is a representation in stained glass of Industry forming a grand window—a memorial of the founder's mother, costing $1,000. Opening to the right of the hall is a reading room in antique oak, and adjoining it a library finished in the same wood, containing 1,000 volumes. These are to be increased to 3,000 as stated by Dr. Warner last evening. On this floor are two elegant parlors, both furnished in keeping with the style of the building. Opening from the parlors are music, cloak, bath and toilet rooms, and a room for the superintendent.

The second story rooms are all in ash. They consist of concert room with opera chairs for 600 persons, furnished in keeping with the style of the building. Opening from the parlors are music, cloak, bath and toilet rooms, and a room for the superintendent.

The second story rooms are all in ash. They consist of a concert room with opera chairs for 600 persons

The Farm.

Information Wanted.

STOCK OWNER.—Asthma may be cured only in its incipient stages. All cases cannot be cured, but the trouble may be mitigated by care. All sources of irritation should be removed. The horse must be kept where there is an even temperature, away from cold drafts and air. Keep the stall clear of urine, as the ammonia arising from it irritates the air passages. The horse must have easily digested food, and carrot or turnip mashes occasionally. All feed, as hay and oats, should be sprinkled with water, but not made wet or sloppy. The horse must have an occasional laxative in the beginning of treatment, as cold drawn castor oil 16 ounces; solution of potash, three ounces; oil of lemons, two drachms; oil of myrrh, half a drachm; water that has been boiled, eight ounces. Rub the castor oil, also the solution of potash well together in a mortar, then add the other ingredients, still stirring. Shake well before administering. For one daught. To be given in a drench horn or out of a wine bottle. If the above is not obtainable where you reside, the following laxative, which we always recommend when a mild and safe cathartic is needed, may be given: Raw linseed oil, sixteen ounces; oil of aniseed, two drachms; spirits of sweet nitre, two ounces. Mix for one draught. After this has operated, give this: Calomel, digitatis, opium and camphor, of each 25 grains. Make into a ball and give once a day for five days, after which omit the calomel, and the three other ingredients form for a full week. This is the celebrated recipe of the late Professor Dick. After the horse has gone through the above course, always be careful in feeding, occasionally giving bran, turnip or carrot mashes to keep the bowels open.

W. H. F., Minnesota, asks us to give the most practical method and the name and brief description of the best machine for digging potatoes, where one raises from ten to twenty acres. We should be pleased to recommend some machine, but as it would be advertising a business, we cannot do so. Any one having a machine of this kind will do well by advertising in the BLADE.

R. M. C., Kansas: The offensive breath in your horse may result from two causes, bad teeth or indigestion. The latter may be superinduced by the former. First, examine the mouth carefully and remove any cause that deprives the horse of proper mastication. See that accumulations are not permitted to remain between the teeth. Next give easily digested, nutritious food at regular intervals. This may remove the trouble without further effort. But as the feces are watery and not of a healthy color, you will no doubt be compelled to give some medicine. This should combine tonic, first as mild purge, as powdered aloes, 3 drachms; bicarbonate of soda, 1 ounce. Give as a drench in a pint of warm water. After this has operated administer this: Bicarbonate of soda, ½ ounce, powdered gentian, half an ounce; powdered nux vomica, 20 grains. Give twice daily for three days. The feed should be scalded. Your cow has a diseased condition of the blood. Examine carefully for insects. These pests will attack an animal before you are aware of it. If found, the cow should be curried and thoroughly washed with soap and tepid water, and then carefully rubbed until the hair is perfectly dry. Then rub any parts on which the insects may be seen with this: Scotch snuff, 2 ounces; lard, 6 ounces. Mix well together. If affected with insects, the above, with nutritious food, given frequently and in small quantities, will bring the animal around all right. If the disarrangement has not been caused by insects, you must begin by stirring three-quarters of a pound of salts, a tablespoonful of ginger (not heaped), and a teacupful of molasses in hot water, and give it to the animal before it gets cold. After this has operated, give a tonic, namely: Sulphate of iron, two drachms; powdered nux vomica, one drachm; powdered gentian, one ounce. This amount once a day in dry feed for a week. Suspend for a week, and then resume for two or three days, after which give a bran mash once a day, every other day for a week. In making a bran mash never make more than the cow will eat eagerly at a time. Never allow any to stand over, as it may sour, and irritate. No animal should be fed to engorgement. Many cases of indigestion have resulted from overfeeding at irregular intervals.

C. L. H., Barnesville: Cocked ankle in a horse is only a symptom of some other trouble, for which nothing is of little use. It results from navicular disease, rheumatism, corns, bruises on the heels, sprains of the suspensory ligaments below the fetlock joint, or at times severe shoulder lameness. You must make a thorough examination of your horse's foot. We venture to say, from the fact that your horse stands off lame, that he is troubled with corns or navicular disease. Look first for corns; then see if there is anything like contraction of the heel or heat in the hoof. Feel the shoulder and see if there is heat, or whether it is as full as the opposite one. We can not tell you what to do until the troubled part is located. The best we can now do is to tell you how to proceed to find the part affected. When you find where the trouble is write, and we shall try to assist you.

SUBSCRIBER, Indiana: All the way from one-half to two bushels of flax seed are sown to the acre. The proper soil is good alluvial or vegetable loam. In a very rich soil flax grows too coarse, and on hard soil the crop will not make a profitable return. A rich sod which has long lain in pasture or meadow, well plowed and rotted, is the best for it. Fresh barn yard manure is not suited to it. A good wheat is a good flax soil. Salt, ashes, and gypsum are proper manures for it, on a finely prepared surface of fresh sod, or after corn or roots which have been well cleared. Sow broadcast from 16 to 32 quarts per acre, if wanted for seed, or two bushels if wanted for the fibre. The straw, by being crushed through a threshing machine, receives too much violence to be of the value in making cloth of that which passes through the hemp break. Dealers in agricultural implements sell a machine for flax breaking and hatcheting, but when a small quantity of flax is raised there is nothing that will surpass the hand hemp brake. When flax is intended for cambrics and the finest linen, it is pulled when flowering; but in this country the season has passed for the fibre until the seed is entirely formed, and although not ripe, most of it will mature if pulled, while the fibre is in its full length. If required for seed, it should be left standing till the first seeds are well ripened.

Dehorning—Raising Calves.

EDITOR BLADE FARM:—On the last day of September I corralled my cattle, and, having stanchions built, I caught a large cow, put her in the stanchion and tied her head to one side, and with a butcher's meat saw began operations, and just entered the first horn, when the cow gave a lurch and broke the stantion and my meat saw. I then put a plank in beside her and tied her head around a post, took my hand saw and cut off her horns in five minutes and turned her loose. It took me some time to get my stanchion rigged again, but after it was O. K. I cut off the horns of from seven cows before half past ten, it taking me half the time to get one in the stantion. They went to grass as natural as ever. When I watered them, four or five would drink from a half barrel. They are now nicely haired over, and are unmistakable muley's. They do not fight, and will occupy one shed now. I would not have their horns on again for the price of a good cow.

I have read considerable about raising calves and would like to give my experience. Having a butter contract, and being a little short, I had to resort to measures to keep my contract without buying another cow. As soon as the ninth milking, I mixed some milk with the sweet, and, using skimmed milk, warmed some of it to a scald, and poured it into thick milk, half and half. The calf drank it very readily. In one week I fed clear thick milk, and before two weeks cold milk. By being careful to not feed too much in the start, I could now feed much more than I could have done sweet milk. The mother of the calf was the smallest cow I had, and at the end of three months I had the finest and largest calf of its age in the county. I do not feed calves sweet milk any more. I cannot raise as fat calves as those who let the calf suck the cow all she gives, but I can beat them for size and development. I was invited by a man who has made a business of raising fine cattle, and he said, after I had shown him the calf and his mother, that I had the finest calf in the county. I have raised four as fine calves as can be found of their age in a day's travel. I sold another to butcher at two months to a day that dressed 155 pounds, and there was not fat enough about it to grease a frying pan.

I get tired of feeding my calves, and quit it sooner than I ought, but will raise calves for size and beauty with any one who feeds sweet milk, to the age of turning out.—D. L. B., Glen Elder.

The English Sparrow.

EDITOR BLADE FARM:—I wish to give you my views about the English sparrow: They are getting to be such a pest that it becomes our government to take immediate action for their destruction. They are doing millions of dollars damage every year. They make great havoc in our wheat, oats, barley, buckwheat and corn, also do great damage in many kinds of fruit.

They are getting so numerous that if something is not done with them in ten years there will not be any grain to export from the United States to foreign countries. My plan is to poison them; to petition our legislatures to enact laws for each and every state, and have them appoint one or more persons to go to every place in his respective town. It wants a thorough man, one who is interested in agriculture. Clothe him with authority to go on any man's premises and put poison so as not to endanger their cattle or fowls.

It must be done in winter as you can do nothing with them in summer. I tried an experiment about the first of last February, and before the month was over I had gotten rid of them all, and they had been here by hundreds. I took wheat and boiled it, then while hot I put a little Rough on Rats in it, then put it in boxes with part of one side open. I fastened the boxes to my evergreen trees, straw stacks and buildings, and there was not a sparrow to be seen until my wheat got in the mills. They came then by the thousands, and my grain of all kinds was badly destroyed, also much of my fruit. I can not see any way by which we can get rid of them so cheaply as by poisoning. If our government should offer a bounty of three cents per head and have them all killed in a year, it would cost more than the national debt.

I have a faint idea of the amount of them, for I have seen them scattered and in flocks, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, excepting on the dry plains of Wyoming and Nevada. They are all over California, and in many parts of Canada as well as here. We should have Canada go in with us to put them down, or they would have a breeding place there. I have yet to learn that they destroy insects of any kind. I have examined many of the crops and failed to find anything of the kind.

I have given you my views, and I do think that there is no more important thing before the American people. If you will please publish it in the BLADE you will do me a great favor, as the BLADE has the largest circulation of any paper I know of.—SAMUEL TOMPKINS, LaSalle, N. Y.

How I Make Butter.

My method for making butter for which I receive the highest market price is to have for a dairy a breed of grade Jersey cows which have the best of the cornfield, etc., during the day and stabled at night in a clean, warm, second-story stable, so the liquid droppings drain through the floor and are absorbed by dry material on the lower story. They are fed on ensilage, night and morning, with a liberal allowance of wheat bran; and I shall soon add corn, ground cob and all. The cows are watered from the well and in such a manner as not to be colder than 49 degrees.

The milk is strained into tin cans 8½ by 9 idches, within about three inches of being full, and lowered into a cistern with a rope—and too full, but so it will float, as the water raises by the windmill pumping from a well 100 feet deep and as it is lowered by pumping out for the stock. This is all done without bringing the milk into the house. The milk is allowed to remain there twelve hours and then brought into the house and kept twelve hours longer in a proper place, or can be skimmed at once; or it may remain longer in the cistern. The cream rises mainly within twelve hours. The water in the cistern never gets warmer in summer than 55 degrees or colder in winter than 39 degrees.

Ice and more expensive arrangements can possibly better this plan, but this is within reach of all—was advocated for that reason by me years ago, and so poohed at by those interested in the sale of more expensive implements that I have clung to the plan partly to prove the correctness of my position, and partly for its simple intrinsic value adapted to and within the reach of the most humble.

The cream is kept in a moderately warm place until a slight acidity is noticed, and churned at a temperature in a close, rectangular churn, to granulation; the buttermilk drawn off; about a pint of good dairy salt to fifteen pounds of butter thrown in the churn; a pail of well water added; the cover put on; a few revolutions of the churn are made, when the milky brine is drawn off and another pail of water is added, which washes out the remaining traces of buttermilk. Salt is added to taste which is about one ounce to the pound,, and being added while the butter is in a granular state it is evenly incorporated through the butter as the butter is worked into a mass by the revolution of the churn. The butter is packed at once into a tub with a common butter ladle, without any other working than that given by the faithful packing and pressing with said ladle.—*F. C. Curtis.*

Farm Notes.

Farmers, plan your work, and then work up to your plan. System in farming, like the solar system, moves without friction. Plan your rotation of crops ahead.

John Randolph, of Virginia, once exclaimed when making a speech in the legislature of his state: "I have found the philosopher's stone which turns everything into gold. It is 'PAY AS YOU GO.'"

Adams Express company is represented by the New York *Voice* as having learned by experience with their horses, which are out in all weathers, that blankets do them more harm than good.

A few hours or a half a day can be most profitably spent now in going around and nailing up every loose board or paling in the fences, or putting the rails or posts to their places and fastening them securely.

Fourteen years ago the first creamery was started in Iowa. Now that state has 495 creameries, 56 cheese factories and 1,000,000 cows, and makes for export 85,000,000 pounds of butter annually.

The most critical period in the life of a calf is the first winter, but it will bring no serious risk if the animal has abundant food of good quality, and good comfortable quarters, with freedom from parasitic insects.

The driven well patent is held to be invalid by the circuit court, and the decision is sustained by the supreme court, on the proof that the invention was used in public by another man two years before the present patent was applied for.

There is a movement in South Carolina to have the legislature declare farm mortgages void on the ground of usury, the cause being that mortgages on hundreds of thousands of acres of farming land in that state mature soon.

A prominent Englishman lately advised Cheshire farmers not to allow a cow to remain in their hands which did not give from calf to calf at least 600 gallons a year, as it cost as much to keep a cow that did not give 600 gallons as a cow that did.

It has been decided to have modern creaming done at all Wisconsin institutes the coming winter and have butter publicity made. Opportunity will be given to manufacturers of implements to exhibit, raise cream, and make butter if they desire.

The buyers of first class hotels and restaurants state that there is more difficulty in obtaining superior mutton than any kind of meat, poultry or game. If this be true it should give a good hint to farmers in all sections of the country.

The number of cattle in the United States in January, 1878, was over 43,000,000. Of this number at least 15,000,000 were melch cows. In value these melch cows represent more than one-third of the capital invested in cattle.

The consumption of mutton is increasing in this country, especially in our large cities, and it has become profitable to supply this demand. It is profitable, first, because the price is remunerative, and secondly, because it is promotive of good husbandry, the improvement of the soil.

The farmer used to be, in the old stories, the clown of society, but style has rapidly and horsishness. That day has gone by, and his virtues and real nobility of nature, and large knowledge of practical things best worth knowing, are acknowledged and respected.

The influence of the best seed to produce the best crop may be estimated by the superiority of "thoroughbred" over common stock, and the same principles apply to the production of vegetables and fruit as in the production of the best and finest grades of cattle.

There are hundreds of thousands of acres of mountain lands that now produce almost nothing for human food or clothing, which might yield immense products of these if stocked with mountain sheep, and they would do this with little care and expense to their owners.

A correspondent of the *Rural World* says no doubt that mutton can be popularized by producing the right kind, and the right kind must have weight and plenty of lean, juicy and tender meat, so that when one buys a joint he will get value for his money in something that he can eat not loaded with fat.

A letter in the *Rural New Yorker* figures that there are one hundred millions of dollars' worth of fodder wasted in the great corn States, and moralizes upon his calculations as follows: Turn this into products salable for cash, and the call for loans would certainly be greatly lessened. If by this and like economies the demand for loans on mortgage falls below the supply of loanable capital, interest rates would come down by the run. It is as sure as that big crops of cotton and grain break down the prices of these or other farm staples. The effect of this law can no more be escaped by the money king than by the farmer.

DR. TALMAGE ON "SMALL THINGS."

Too Much Straining at Gnats and Swallowing of Camels — The Faults of the Church and of Men in Commercial Life.

BROOKLYN, Dec. 11.—To-night the Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage, D. D., preached at the Tabernacle, on "Too Much Ado About Small Things." His text was: "Ye blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel." Matthew xxiii, 24. The eloquent preacher said:

A proverb is compact wisdom, knowledge in chunks, a library in a sentence, the electricity of many clouds discharged in one bolt, a river put through a mill race. When Christ quotes the proverb of the text, he means to set forth the ludicrous behavior of those who make a great bluster about small sins and have no appreciation of great ones.

In my text a small insect and a large quadruped are brought into comparison—a gnat and a camel. You have in museum or on the desert seen the latter, an ungainly, awkward, sprawling creature, with back two-stories high, and stomach having a collection of reservoirs for desert travel, an animal forbidden to the Jews as food, and in many literatures entitled "the ship of the desert." The gnat spoken of in the text is the grub form. It is born in pool or pond, after a few weeks becomes a chrysalis, and then after a few days becomes a gnat as we recognize it. But the insect spoken of in the text is in its very smallest shape, and it yet inhabits the water—for my text is a misprint and ought to read "strain out a gnat."

My text shows you the prince of inconsistencies. A man, after longlobservation, has formed the suspicion that in a cup of water he is about to drink there is a grub, or the grandparent of a gnat. He goes and gets a sieve or strainer. He takes the water and pours it through the sieve in the light. He says, "I would rather do anything almost than drink this water until this larva be extirpated." This water is brought under inquisition. The experiment is successful. The water rushes through the sieve and leaves against the side of the sieve the grub or gnat. Then the man carefully removes the insect and drinks the water in placidity. But going out one day, and hungry, he devours a "ship of the desert," the camel, which the Jews were forbidden to eat. The gastronomer has no compunctions of conscience. He suffers from no indigestion. He puts his jaws saw into the camel's flesh, and his upper over the hump of the camel's back, and gives one swallow and the dromedary disappers forever. He strained out a gnat, he swallowed a camel.

While Christ's audience were yet smiling at the appositeness of His illustration—for sailors they did to church, unless they were too stupid to understand the hyperbole—Christ practically said to them, "That is you." Punctilious about small things; reckless about affairs of great magnitude. No subject ever withered under a surgeon's knife more bitterly than did the Pharisees under Christ's scalpel of truth. As an anatomist will take a human body to pieces and put them under a microscope for examination, so Christ finds His way to the heart of the dead Pharisee and cuts it out and puts it under the glass of inspection for all generations to examine. Those Pharisees thought Christ would flatter them and compliment them, but when he said to his pensive implements that I have clung to the plan partly to prove the correctness of my position, and partly for its simple intrinsic value adapted to and within the reach of the most humble. "Ye fools, ye whited sepulchres, ye blind guides, which strain at a gnat and swallow a camel."

There are in our day a great many gnats strained at and a great many camels swallowed, and it is the object of this sermon to show the dangerousness of the errors extensively engaged in that business.

First, I remark, that all those ministers of the gospel are photographed in the text who are very scrupulous about the conventionalities of religion, but put no particular stress upon matters of vast importance. Church services ought to be grave and solemn. There is no frivolity in religious convocation. But there are hyperboles like that of Christ in the text that will irradiate with smiles any intelligent auditory. There are men like these blind guides of the text who advocate only those things as religious services which draw the corners of the mouth down, and denounce all those things which have a tendency to draw the corners of the mouth up, and these men will go to installations and to presbyteries, and to conferences, and to associations, their pockets full of fine sieves to strain out the gnats, while in their own churches at home or on Sunday there are fifty people sound asleep. They make their churches a great dormitory, and their somnoferous sermons are a cradle, and the drawled-out hymns a lullaby, while some wakeful soul in a pew with her fan keeps the flies off unconscious persons approximate. Now, I say it is worse to have a church than to have everything into gold. It is 'PAY AS YOU GO.'" church, for the latter implies at least attention, while the former implies the indifference of the hearers and the stupidity of the speaker. In old age, or from physical infirmity, or from long watching with the sick, drowsiness will sometimes overcome one; but when a professional minister of the gospel looks off upon an audience and finds healthy and intelligent people struggling with drowsiness, it is time for him to give out the doxology or pronounce the benediction. The great fault of church services to-day is is not too much vivacity, but too much somnolence. The one is an irritating gnat that may be easily strained out; the other is a great, sprawling and sleepy-eyed camel of the dry desert. In all our Sabbath schools, in all our pulpits, we need to brighten up our religious message with such Christ-like vivacity as we find in the text.

I take down from my library the biographies of ministers and writers of past ages, inspired and uninspired, who have done the most to bring souls to Jesus Christ, and I find that without a single exception they consecrated their wit and their humor to Christ. Elijah used it when he advised the Baalites, as they could not make their god respond, telling them to call louder, as their god might be sound asleep or gone a hunting. Job used it when he said to his self-conceited comforters, "Wisdom will die with you." Christ not only used it in the text, but when He ironically complimented the putrefied Pharisees, saying, "The whole need not a physician," and when by one word He described the cunning of Herod, saying, "Go ye and tell that fox." Matthew Henry's commentaries from the first page to the last coruscated with humor as summer clouds with heat lightning. John Bunyan's writings are as full of humor as they are of saving truth, and there is not an aged man living who has not laughed at "Pilgrim's Progress," who does not remember that while reading it he smiled as often as he wept. Chrysostom, George Herbert, Robert South, John Wesley, George Whitefield, Jeremy Taylor, Rowland Hill, Nettleton, Charles G. Finney, and all the men of the past, who greatly helped their race to Heaven, consecrated their wit and their humor to the cause of Christ. So it has been in all the ages, and I say to these young theological students, who cluster in these services Sabbath by Sabbath, sharpen your wits as keen as scimitars, and then take them into the holy war. Down with every sham! Right between a smile and a tear, as suspended bridge from eye to lip, and it is soon crossed over, and a smile is sometimes just as sacred as a tear. There is as much religion, and I think a little more, in a spring morning than in a starless midnight. Religious work, without any humor or wit in it, is a banquet with a side of beef, and that raw, and no condiments, and no dessert succeeding. People will not sit down at such a banquet. By all means, remove all frivolity, and all bathos, and all lightness, and all vulgarity—strain them out through the sieve of holy discrimination; but, on the other hand, beware of that monster which overshadows the Christian church to-day, conventionality, coming up from the Great Sahara Desert of ecclesiasticism, having on its back a hump of sanctimonious gloom, and vehemently refuse to swallow that camel.

Oh, how particular a great many people are about the infinitesimals while they are quite reckless about the magnitudes. What did Christ say? Did he not excoriate the people in his time who were so careful to wash their hands before a meal, but did not wash their hearts? It is a bad thing to have unclean hands; it is a worse thing to have an unclean heart. How many people are in our time who are very anxious that after their death they shall be buried with their feet toward the east, and not at all anxious that during their whole life they should face in the right direction so that they shall come in the resurrection of the just whichever way they are buried. Now and many there are chiefly anxious that a minister of the gospel shall come in the line of apostolic succession, not caring so much whether he comes from Apostle Paul or Apostle Judas. They have a way of measuring a gnat until it is larger than a camel.

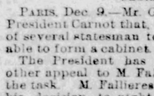
Again: My subject photographs all those who are abhorrent of small sins while they are reckless in regard to magnificent thefts. You will find many a merchant who, while he is so careful that he would not take a yard of cloth or a spool of cotton from the counter without paying for it, and who, if a bank cashier should make a mistake and send in a roll of bills five dollars too much would dispatch a messenger in hot haste to return the surplus, yet who will go into a stock company in which after a while he gets control of the stock, and then waters the stock and makes one hundred thousand dollars appear like two hundred thousand dollars. He only stole one hundred thousand dollars by the operation. Many of the men of fortune made their wealth in that way. One of those men, engaged in such unrighteous act, that evening, the evening of the very day when he watered the stock, will find a wharf-rat stealing a newspaper from the basement doorway, and will go out and catch the urchin by the collar, and twist the collar so tightly the poor fellow cannot say that it was thirst for knowledge that led him to the dishonest act, but grip the collar tighter and tighter, saying, "I have been looking for you a long while; you stole my paper four or five times, haven't you? you miserable wretch?" And then the old stock gambler, with a voice they can hear three blocks, will cry out, "Police, police!" That same man, the evening of the day in which he watered the stock, will kneel with his family in prayers and thank God for the prosperity of the day, then kiss his children good night with an air which seems to say, "I hope you will all grow up to be as good as your father." Prisons for sins insect in size, but palaces for crimes like were longer than a century, as though time were higher, deeper, broader than eternity. So the text which flashed with lightning of wit as Christ uttered it, is followed by the thrashing thunders of awful catastrophe to those who make the questions of time greater than the questions of eternity, the oncoming, everstanding future. O, eternity! eternity! eternity!

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

FRENCH AFFAIRS.

M. Goblet May be Prime Minister—Carnot Stock Booming.

PARIS, Dec. 6.—It is expected that M. Goblet will be prime minister in the new cabinet and that M. Flourens will retain the portfolio of foreign affairs. The chambers have adjourned until Saturday. A subscription has been started to raise a fund for the purpose of erecting a monument to the great Carnot, grandfather of the new President. The Extremists still continue to oppose the relention or Gen. Saussier, as governer of Paris. President Sadi-Carnot, in an interview with M. Clemenceau, insisted on the necessity of a union of all the Republicans in the Chambers, first, to show foreigners that Republicans can agree, and second, in order that they may vote an honest and sincere budget.



M. SADI-CARNOT.

M. Clemenceau fully endorsed the President's views. The accord between President Sadi-Carnot and M. Clemenceau is regarded as a good omen of the future of the Republic.

The President has received M. Ribot and other leading politicians.

THE RUSSIAN MASSING.

Russia was Only Preparing to Head Off Germany and Austria.

PARIS, Dec. 7.—According to private advices from Warsaw, the massing of Russian troops on the frontier is attributable to information received by Russia of a concerted plan by Germany and Austria for united action in the event of a war between either of those powers and Russia.

In simultaneous interviews it is supposed that Germany and Austria should suddenly invade Russian Poland and occupy Warsaw by using their greater facilities for mobilizing.

In consequence of the discovery of this alleged project, Russia resolved to compensate for her slow facilities for mobilizing by a permanent increase of her frontier forces. The movement implies no aggression but is a purely defensive precaution.

M. GOBLET THE MAN.

He will Demand that Gen. Boulanger Take the War Portfolio.

PARIS, Dec. 8.—It is stated that M. Goblet, who has undertaken the task of forming a ministry, intends to demand that Gen. Boulanger shall be minister of war.

M. Paul de Rouledе has resigned the presidency of the Patriotic League because of a disagreement with the executive committee in relation to his action during the Presidential crisis.

HOW AUSTIRIA FEELS.

She Will Ever Keep an Alert Eye on the Russians in Poland.

PESTH, Dec. 8.—In the best informed circles, the situation arising from the reinforcement of Russian troops in Poland is not regarded as portending immediate danger. Nothing more will be done beyond sending a warning to Russia that Austria is watchful and will not leave unanswered any further military measures but Russia may take.

Austria will not precipitate counter measures, because she does not desire to leave Russia without a loop-hole or give her retreat the appearance of being due to Austrian menace.

It is expected that Austria will grant to Russia a brief delay for furnishing a spontaneous explanation of the massing of her troops. Meanwhile Austria's preparations will quietly continue. The press regard matters in a perfectly calm spirit.

NO BETTER THAN BEFORE.

M. Goblet Finds Himself Unable to Form a Cabinet.

PARIS, Dec. 9.—Mr. Goblet has informed President Carnot that, owing to the refusal of several statesman to join him, he is unable to form a cabinet.

The President has therefore made another appeal to M. Failleres to undertake the task. M. Failleres will inform him of his decision to-night. The dissensions among the Republicans continues.

LATER.—M. Failleres has agreed to form a cabinet, and it is thought that he will select several of the ministers who were in the Rouvier cabinet.

TO ASSASSINATE M. FERRY.

The Noted Frenchman Shot at Three Times in the Chamber of Deputies.

PARIS, Dec. 10.—[Bulletin]—M. Jules Ferry was fired at three times this afternoon by a man in the lobby of the Chamber of Deputies.

There is great excitement and details of the shooting are not obtainable.

It is reported however that M. Ferry is seriously injured.

5 P. M.—M. Ferry was shot by a man named Aubertin. Aubertin appeared in the hall of the Chamber of Deputies and asked to see both M. Ferry and M. Goblet.

M. Goblet did not respond to Aubertin's request for an interview, but M. Ferry did, and on his appearance Aubertin drew a revolver and fired three times at him.

It is reported that one of the balls struck M. Ferry in the chest. This wound, however, is apparently not serious, as M. Ferry was able to proceed to a hospital, supported by friends. In reply to inquiries by friends as to the severity of his wound he responded: "It is nothing." Aubertin has been arrested.

5:30 P. M.—It has been ascertained that M. Ferry's wounds are slight, the shots only grazed the skin after piercing his clothes.

The by-standers tried to lynch Aubertin after he had fired the shots, but were prevented with difficulty from carrying out their intentions.

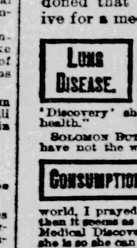
THE FIRST SHOT IN THE REVOLUTION.

The real name of his assailant is Berckeln. He is 20 years of age. He states that he is one of a band of twenty revolutionists. The band drew lots and it fell to him to commit the first crime. Berckeln declares he swore to kill M. Ferry.

BETTER NEWS FROM SAN REMO.

Increased Hopes of the German Crown Prince's Recovery.

BERLIN, Dec. 10.—There is much joy in the German empire over the report to-day from the Crown Prince that he rode this morning to Madonna della Guardia, returning by the way of Borgia. In the afternoon he visited his son, Prince Henry, at the Hotel Mediterranee. He looks well. King Humbert has placed a steam launch at the disposal of the Crown Prince. The *Magdeburger Zeitung's* correspondent at San Remo says that during the past few days the physicians attending the Crown Prince have expressed hopes not only that his life will be preserved, but also that he will completely recover from his throat trouble.



UNSER FRITZ.

RUSSIA AND HER FOES.

The Czar Mistrusts that Bismarck Wrote the Decoy Letters.

LONDON, Dec. 10.—Dispatches from Berlin say that papers there confirm the reports that the troops in Russian Poland have been enormously increased in numbers, and add that they are under the chief command of the famous Gen. Gourko, Russia's greatest fighting general since the death of Skobeloff.

Numerous theories have been adducted and various explanations have been offered in regard to the alleged forged letters that found their way to the czar, supposedly from the hand of Bismarck. A great many people have been accused of writing them, and nearly every day some one discovers that the poor Orleanists are the guilty parties, and lay the slip at their door.

The Countess Wolkenstein-Trostburg, wife of the Austrian ambassador at St. Petersburg, has been selected as one of the intriguers, and continental dispatches declared that Austria was about to recall her ambassador. It was also stated about two weeks that the czar, in consequence of a changed heart toward Germany and Bismarck, whom he had misjudged, was to countermand his war minister's order for the concentration of troops in Poland.

The order has evidently never been countermanded. The whole truth of the matter is that Prince Von Bismarck is strongly suspected of having written the objectionable letters himself, and that the czar has come to the conclusion. His reason is that Bismarck, thinking that he held a good hand, tried a game of bluff with the czar and the latter refused to be frightened.

He declined to meet Emperor William at Stettin in consequence of the letters, and only out of consideration for the latter's feeble condition and on account of the illness of the crown prince did he consent to the interview at Berlin. He refused to meet Bismarck, but the latter forced himself upon him, and, realizing that the game of bluff had failed, denied writing the letters.

It is now stated that the czar, being convinced of the treachery of the German chancellor, has ordered the massing of the troops along the frontier. Thus he shows his contempt of the triple powers. According to Sir Charles Dilke, who is good authority, Russia can put 4,000,000 trained men into the field within thirty days, while the combined armies of Germany and Austria would show not quite three millions.

HOOD'S SARSAPARILLA.

Ringing Noises

In the ears, sometimes a roaring, buzzing sound or snapping like the report of a pistol, are caused by Catarrh, that exceedingly disagreeable and very common disease. Loss of smell or hearing also result from Catarrh. Hood's sarsaparilla, the great blood purifier, is a peculiarly successful remedy for this disease, which it cures by purifying the blood. If you suffer from Catarrh, try Hood's Sarsaparilla, the peculiar medicine.

"I have been a sufferer from Catarrh for a good many years, I tried everything I heard of, with little or no benefit, until I began taking Hood's Sarsaparilla, which I am now using with good results. I can recommend it heartily to all in need of a good medicine."—MRS. A. B. DUNHAM, Omaha, Neb.

HOOD'S SARSAPARILLA

Sold by all druggists, $1; six for $5. Prepared only by C. I. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass.

100 DOSES ONE DOLLAR.

HOOD'S SARSAPARILLA.

Ringing Noises

I used Hood's Sarsaparilla for Catarrh, and received great relief and benefit from it. The Catarrh was very disagreeable, especially in the winter, causing constant discharge from my nose, ringing noises in my ears, and pains in the back of my head. The effort to clear my head in the morning by hawking and spitting was painful. Hood's Sarsaparilla gave me relief immediately, while in time I was entirely cured. I am never without the medicine in my house, as I think it is worth its weight in gold."—MRS. G. B. GRAM, 1020 Eighth street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

"When I began to take Hood's Sarsaparilla, Catarrh troubled me less, and now I am entirely cured."—JANE HINEY, Lumberton, Ohio. N. B.—Be sure to get

HOOD'S SARSAPARILLA

Sold by all druggists, $1; six for $5. Prepared only by C. I. HOOD & CO., Apothecaries, Lowell, Mass.

100 DOSES ONE DOLLAR.

What Ails You?

Do you feel dull, languid, low-spirited, lifeless, and indiscribably miserable, both physically and mentally; experience a sense of fullness or bloating after eating, or of "goneness," or emptiness of stomach in the morning, tongue coated, bitter or bad taste in mouth, irregular appetite, dizziness, frequent headaches, blurred eyesight, "floating specks" before the eyes, nervous prostration or exhaustion, irritability of temper, hot flushes, alternating with chilly sensations, sharp, biting, transient pains here and there, cold feet, drowsiness after meals, wakefulness, or disturbed and unrefreshing sleep, constant, indescribable feeling of dread, or of impending calamity?

If you have all, or any considerable number of these symptoms, you are suffering from that most common of American maladies—Bilious Dyspepsia, or Torpid Liver, associated with Dyspepsia, or Indigestion. The more complicated your disease has become, the greater the number and diversity of symptoms. No matter what stage it has reached, DR. PIERCE'S GOLDEN MEDICAL DISCOVERY will subdue it, if taken according to directions for a reasonable length of time. If not cured, complications multiply and Consumption of the Lungs, Skin Diseases, Heart Disease, Rheumatism, Kidney Disease, or other grave maladies are quite liable to set in and, sooner or later, induce a fatal termination.

BILIOUS ATTACK. DAVID G. LOWE, Esq., of *St. Agathe, Manitoba, Canada*, says: "About one year ago, being troubled with a terrible bilious attack, fluttering of the heart, poor rest at night, etc., I commenced the use of your 'Golden Medical Discovery' and 'Pellets,' and derived the very highest benefit therefrom."

MALARIAL FEVER. Mrs. MOLLIE E. TAILOR, *Cannelton, Ind.*, writes: "I think the 'Golden Medical Discovery' is one of the greatest medicines in the world. I gave it to my little girl and it cured her of the malarial fever."

LIVER DISEASE. Dyspepsia.—THERESA A. CASS, of *Springfield, Mo.*, writes: "I was troubled one year with liver complaint, dyspepsia, and sleeplessness, but your 'Golden Medical Discovery' cured me."

Mrs. ELIZABETH J. BUSHWAW, of *Sidney, Ohio*, writes: "My little boy was so afflicted with liver trouble and other diseases that our family physician said he could not live. In fact, they all thought so. I gave him Dr. Pierce's Pellets and they saved his life. We have also used the 'Golden Medical Discovery' for throat and bronchial trouble, and found such perfect relief that we can also recommend it very highly."

DYSPEPSIA AND DEBILITY. Mrs. MELISSA ATWATER, of *Steuben, Washington Co., Maine*, says: "I was afflicted with dyspepsia, nervous and general debility, for which I took your 'Golden Medical Discovery' and 'Favorite Prescription,' six bottles of each. That was some two years ago. It cured me so that I have not had a day since. I had been in very poor health for a number of years, and took much medicine from physicians, but received no benefit from them."

LIVER DISEASE AND HEART TROUBLE. Mrs. MARY A. MCCLURE, *Columbus, Kans.*, writes: "I addressed you in November, 1884, being afflicted with liver disease, heart trouble, and female weakness. I was advised to use Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, Favorite Prescription and Pellets. I used one bottle of the 'Prescription,' five of the 'Discovery,' and four of the 'Pleasant Purgative Pellets.' My health began to improve under the use of your medicine, and my strength came back. My difficulties have all disappeared. I can work hard all day, or walk four or five miles a day, and stand it well; and when I began using the medicine I could scarcely walk across the room, most of the time, and I did not think I could ever feel well again. I give your remedies all the credit for curing me, as I took no other treatment after beginning their use. I am very grateful for your kindness, and thank God and thank you that I am as well as I am, after years of suffering."

LIVER DISEASE. Mrs. I. V. WEBBER, of *Yorkshire, Cattaraugus Co., N. Y.*, writes: "I wish to say a few words in praise of your 'Golden Medical Discovery' and 'Pleasant Purgative Pellets.' For five years previous to taking them I was a great sufferer. I had a severe pain in my right side continually; was unable to do my own work. I am happy to say I am now well and strong, thanks to your medicines."

SICK HEADACHE. A. B. WEAVER, Esq., of *693 Houck Avenue, Buffalo, N. Y.*, writes: "Having used your 'Golden Medical Discovery' in my family, I desire to testify to its merits. I suffered much by it in cases of sick headache. As a children's remedy, for coughs and colds, I have likewise found it all that could be desired, its employment having uniformly availed to promptly check any attacks of that kind."

INVIGORATES THE SYSTEM. Dyspepsia.—JAMES L. COLBY, Esq., of *Yucatan, Houston Co., Minn.*, writes: "I was troubled with indigestion, and would eat heartily and grow poor at the same time. I experienced heartburn, sour stomach and many other disagreeable symptoms common to that disorder. I commenced taking your 'Golden Medical Discovery' and 'Pellets,' and I am now entirely free from the dyspepsia, and am, in fact, healthier than I have been for five years. I weigh one hundred and seventy pounds, and have done as much work the past summer as I have ever done in the same length of time in my life. I never took a medicine that seemed to tone up the muscles and invigorate the whole system equal to your 'Discovery' and 'Pellets.'"

GENERAL DEBILITY. Mrs. PARMELIA BRUNDAGE, of *381 Lock Street, Lockport, N. Y.*, writes: "I was troubled with chills, nervous and general debility, with frequent sore throat, and my mouth was badly cankered. The doctor said I had scrofula, and I suffered much with dyspepsia. I am pleased to say that your 'Golden Medical Discovery' and 'Pellets' have cured me of all these ailments and I cannot say enough in their praise. I must also say a word in reference to your 'Favorite Prescription,' as it has proven itself a most excellent medicine for weak females. It has been used in my family with excellent results."

Chronic Diarrhea Cured.—D. LAZARUS, Esq., *275 and 277 Decatur Street, New Orleans, La.*, writes: "I used three bottles of the 'Golden

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

Hon. N. C. Deering, Osage, Iowa, ex-Congressman and ex-national bank examiner, is dead.

A train on the St. Louis, Arkansas & Texas road was stopped by masked men, Friday, and the express car robbed of $40,000.

The farmhouse of Michael Harris, fourteen miles from Wessington, Dak., has burned. The entire family of nine persons were burned to death.

Clearing house returns from 35 American cities show a total of $1,029,212,111; decrease, 15.3; outside of New York, $377,360,008, an increase of 3.5.

Rev. Mr. Berry has declined a call to Plymouth church. The decision was announced from the pulpit of the Queens street chapel in Wolverhampton Sunday.

The Samuel J. Randall club, the principal Democratic organization in Allegheny county, has unanimously passed a resolution endorsing President Cleveland's message.

The *Temps* announces that the French government is willing to take part in a conference at Madrid, on the Morocco question, provided the discussion be limited to the protection of foreigners.

Rev. Dr. E. P. Humphrey, of the Presbyterian church, of Louisville, and one of the oldest and most distinguished ministers in the South, is dead. He was born in Fairfield, Conn., January 8, 1809.

James O'Connell, stage manager, was struck dead by an electric current which came from the bell wire when he rang down the curtain at Robinson's theater, in Cincinnati, Saturday night. He was 26 years old.

An explosion of dynamite occurred on the New Pittston branch of the Lehigh Valley road, Section Foreman Sweeney, of Philadelphia, was instantly killed. Five Italian laborers were severely injured. The accident occurred in blasting.

A caucus of the Democratic members of the general assembly of Virginia nominated by acclamation Hon. John S. Barbour for election as United States Senator to succeed Senator Riddleberger whose term will expire March 4, 1889.

Madame Adam has written a letter to the French press in which she suggests that the Sphinxes now in the Tuileries be returned to the Navvy club of Sebastopool and that the Cross and Steeple be returned to the old church of St. Vladimar.

The Czar has given a banquet to the Knights of the Order of St. George, and offered a toast to the health of Emperor William, who is the oldest chevalier of the order. The band played the Prussian national anthem when the Czar offered the toast.

A number of representatives of the wool industry had a meeting in San Francisco, and adopted resolutions to the effect that any reduction in the tariff on wool would seriously cripple the industry and greatly decrease its production in that state.

United States marshal Gordon, Trenton, N. J., has appointed his daughter, Alphonsine M. Gordon, a young lady just out of her teens, as his deputy. The appointment is not without precedent, as Louisiana has a female marshal, and other states have female deputies.

Deputy United States Marshal Thomas has brought into Fort Smith, Ark., the largest batch of criminals ever taken there at one time. They numbered 42, and twelve of them are charged with murder, five for assault with intent to kill, fifteen larceny, ten for violation of revenue and interior laws.

A meeting of the National Commandry of the Veteran Legion was held in Pittsburg to arrange for the next annual encampment. Reports showed 30 encampments with an increase in membership of 2980. It was decided to hold the next National meeting in Youngstown, O., February 22, 1888.

Hog cholera is reported to the Illinois Live Stock board as prevalent in seventeen counties. Otherwise the live stock of the state is reported healthy. There is no scab in any case, for it is sheep, and that is an imported animal. Cattle are not as fat as usual owing to the scarcity of food and water.

Lord Mayor Sullivan, who was convicted of publishing in his paper, the *Nation*, accounts of proclaimed branches of the Irish National League, and sentenced to two months' imprisonment, has been removed to the Tullamore jail in order to prevent his holding daily levees, as he was doing in the jail here.

The death is reported from Whitcomb, Washington Territory, of Rev. Mr. J. S. Kalloch, who has long been a prominent figure on the Pacific coast. He was elected mayor of San Francisco on the workingmen's ticket in 1879. During the campaign he was shot by Charles DeYoung, at that time editor of the *Chronicle*.

In the Superior court at Hartford, Conn., the application of the insurance commissioner to put the Continental Life Insurance company into the hands of a receiver, was not down for hearing December 27. The statement of the commissioner shows liabilities, $2,701,000; assets, $1,200,000 as its condition January 1. He claims the deficit is now much larger.

In the United States court at Fort Smith, Ark., E. S. Boudinot, jr., charged with the murder of Editor Stone, was admitted to bail in the sum of $15,000. In passing on the question of bail Judge Parker gave as his reasons the crowded condition of the docket and the inability of defendant having to wait for trial till the beginning of the next fiscal year, on account of the appropriation for the courts being exhausted.

A DIVIDED SOUTH.

Cleveland Has Split it With One Stab of His Pen—Great is Cleveland.

NEW YORK, Dec. 7.—The following editorials from some of the leading journals of the South are of interest as showing how that section views the President's plan for reducing the revenue. The Charleston, S. C., *News and Courier* says:

"The President's views with cruel courtesy every fallacy of the protective argument. Indeed, a stronger or more comprehensive exposition of the weakness and inherent inequality of the protective system has not been given to the public. Through it all, however, there runs a vein of kindly sympathy and patriotic consideration.

"The manufacturer, or the workingman, who reads this message must be callous and suspicious indeed if he is not impressed by it with the abiding conviction that a readjustment of the tariff, which should be committed to the President if that were practicable, would leave the workingman in better position than that which he now holds, and would increase the general prosperity of manufacturers and the persons they employ, in such a way as to increase the markets of the world, and would, at the same time, by diminishing the burdens and restraints on them, augment the comforts of every man, woman and child in the land."

The New Orleans *Times-Democrat* says: "The message sent yesterday by the President to Congress is unique. It is, first of all, the shortest Presidential message ever sent, and it is confined wholly to a single subject—the tariff.

"The President declares himself in no uncertain terms—a revenue reformer and opposed to protection pure and simple.

"He would have Congress leave the internal revenue alone and concentrate itself on the work of reducing the tariff.

"We do not agree with the Presidentin regard to the non-reduction of the tobacco tax. It is true that tobacco is not a necessity, but the tax is troublesome and burdensome to the agricultural producer, and the cost of its collection is considerable."

The Atlanta *Constitution* says: "The message of the President concerns itself solely with the tariff question, and he discusses almost exclusively from the standpoint of "Brer Bill Morrison," of Illinois, who was left at home by his esteemed constituents, on account of his extreme views.

"At the same time the President does not go as far as "Brer Bill Morrison." He pauses in the lesson which he gives to Congress to refer to the fact that the Democratic platform suggests protection for American industries and American labor.

"There is one fact, however, to which Mr. Cleveland fails to call attention, namely, that the promises of the Democratic platform can be carried out by the repeal of the internal revenue law, which was framed to suit an emergency long since passed, and which, in its operation, is odious and unjust. The repeal of this law would so effectually do away with the surplus that Congress would be compelled to revise the tariff with such protection as the Chicago platform calls for, but the free traders are opposed to this repeal for the reason that while the revenue tax is levied, any attempt to reduce the tariff will merely result in increasing the surplus, and they will, therefore, have an excuse for putting their free trade notions into effect to some extent.

"That a man of practical common sense, like Cleveland, should walk into such a trap, is surprising, but he has not walked in without a protest, as his reference to the Chicago platform shows.

NO COAL IN KANSAS.

Deprivation and Death Will Result Unless the Residents Can Get Fuel—Why the Scarcity.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., Dec. 12.—[Special wire.]—Deputy U. S. Marshal Chas. Currier, who has traveled much about the western part of the country during the last two weeks, says that the condition of the people, so far as fuel is concerned, is truly pitiable. Coal is not to be obtained at any price and many cases of actual suffering is reported.

The last cold wave exhausted what little supply they had and should another follow soon no one can estimate the suffering and probable deaths that will ensue.

In a majority of cases where there is such a scarcity of coal it is partially the fault of the railroads and coal dealers. The latter did not order coal until late in the fall. Then the mines were not of sufficient capacity to supply the orders.

The railroad corporations saw that they would be out short if all dealers were supplied, and by one pretext or another failed to deliver coal to the dealers, but put such restrictions and rates upon it that the mines were forced to supply them first.

Their supply is not limited, but they have hoarded it up to the detriment and suffering of thousands of people who have settled on the prairies of Western and Southern Kansas.

WASHINGTON NEWS.

SAVORS OF FRANK HURD.

How the Free Trade Speech was Received in Washington.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—At last the President has declared himself definitely and distinctly on some questions. His message to Congress sets forth what the Democratic party has always been afraid to carry into a campaign. There is no mistaking his meaning, and that of course is concurred in by the leaders of his party, excepting Mr. Randall and a few of his ring.

Representative Butterworth says the message reads out of the Democratic party all who do not agree with the statements set forth. The comments of members of the two different wings and the Republicans are amusing.

Roger Q. Mills of Texas says it is the greatest state paper that was ever stated on paper.

"It is a stump speech," said Mr. McAdoo of New Jersey.

Mr Randall has nothing to say yet. He wants to read it again.

Mr. Tom Reed says if the question was not of such a serious nature it would be a huge joke. Mr. Cleveland attempted to give his message strength by making the tariff its only point.

Gen. Rob Kennedy says it reads like one of Frank Hurd's speeches thinned out.

DEMOCRATIC EXTRAVAGANCE.

An Increase of Seventeen Millions in the Hire of Help.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Next to the President's message the annual estimates of the secretary of the treasury have caused more comment in congressional circles than anything else to-day.

The Democrats have not had a great deal to say, but among Republicans in both Houses there have been many quiet smiles as the contents of the volumes of nearly 400 pages were digested.

When the Democratic administration came into power there was a great deal of talk about retrenchment, and the following December saw a number of recommendations for a decreased force of clerks and employes in the various departments and bureaus.

Then came statements of an enormous increase in the amount of work performed with a great diminution of assistance. Now comes the sequel. Every bureau of the government, with a solitary exception, and that is in the case of the beaureau of engraving and printing, presided over by a Republican—asks for an additional allowance of funds, and the total of the estimates for the requirements of the services exceed by $17,000,000 the amount asked for last year.

The Republican congressmen think that that this is an ample refutation of the charge or extravagance against former administrations, which have been so frequently heard during the past two years.

REPUBLICAN TARIFF BILL.

A Bill for Reduction to be Formulated by the House Minority.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—It is probable that when Congress reconvenes after the holidays, a caucus will be held by the Republicans in the House, which will probably be attended by the Republicans of the Senate, for the purpose of agreeing upon some plan for revising the tariff.

A number of the leading Republicans have suggested this course, and the appointment of a committee to draft a bill to represent the Republican idea of reducing import duties and internal taxes.

When the Democrats get into the hottest of the fight, as they will assuredly come when the tariff is up, the Republicans think of proposing their measure as a compromise and rallying the protectionists on the Democratic side in support of it.

Gen. Browne, of Indiana, a prominent Republican member of the committee on ways and means, thinks that the Republicans will very generally support a bill placing sugar, salt, lumber, and in fact all the plain necessaries of life on the free list; that they will generally support a bill reducing internal taxes exclusive of spirits.

He does not believe that anybody in the army of protectionists who want to reduce the revenue will be found welcoming that impairing tariff for protection, wants the reduction of the taxes on whisky, etc. It is not among the improbabilities that the Republicans in the House will name a tariff bill which will pass.

THE WOOL INTEREST.

It Takes Direct Ground Against the President's Message.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—At the session of the conference of the wool growers and wool dealers of the United States called by the president of the national association of wool growers, it was unanimously adopted, that

The wool dealers and wool growers of the United States having read the first annual message of the President to the fiftieth congress, declare the sentiments of the message a direct attack upon their industry, positive violation of the national Democratic platform of 1884 as interpreted by party leaders, and accepted by the rank and file of the party; that the argument made by the President for a removal of our protection against foreign competition is an old one, repeatedly made by the enemies of our industrial progress, and effectively answered in nearly every school district of our land and so thoroughly disproved by the logic of facts and demonstration of experience and history as to need no answer from us.

We acknowleege that our small holdings, are scattered and our unorganized condition makes us an easy prey of the free trader. But we had a right to expect something different from the chief executive of the nation, in whose care the most happy, prosperous and contended of any of the world, and made so by protection, the development of which he now seeks to destroy.

We had a right to expect our President would favor the wool growers of the United States, and confess our deep disappointment that instead he favors the interests of our foreign competitors.

Justly alarmed at his position, we make an appeal from his recommendations to the people, to all the people, to seven and three-fourths millions of our fellow-citizens engaged in agriculture, to the millions engaged in manufacturing, to the army of wage-earners whose wages are maintained by a protective system, to tradesmen and merchants whose prosperity depends upon ours, confident that their judgment and decision will be based upon justice and patriotism, for the maintenance of the American policy of protection to which the country is indebted for the unexampled development and prosperity.

To demonstrate the injustice of the President's policy and fallacy of the remedy he proposes for a reduction of the surplus, we point to the fact that if the whole amount of revenue derived from wool was abolished, it would reduce the surplus only about $50,000,000, or less than 10 per cent per capita of the population which is paid by foreigners, while the old war taxes, he recommends to be retained, yield over $119,000,000, and is a direct tax per capita of $2 on each, and is what makes up the great bulk of the surplus of $140,000,000.

BLAINE ON THE MESSAGE.

He Would Remove The Tobacco Tax and Not Bother the Tariff.

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—The *Tribune* has received several thousand words of interview with Mr. Blaine on President Cleveland's message cabled from Paris. This is the gist of the interview: "I have been reading an abstract of the President's message and have been especially interested in the comments of the London papers. Those papers all assume to declare the message a free trade manifest and are evidently anticipating an enlarged market for English fabrics in the United States as the consequence of the President's recommendation.

"Perhaps that fact stamped the character of the message more clearly than any words of mine can."

Mr. Blaine said his own preferences would be for removing the tobacco tax entirely and insisted much more against repealing the tariff. He would not repeal the whisky tax, on account of the moral side to that question.

The tax from whisky he would use to fortify the seaboard. Never before in the world had a great nation neglected to provide for the defense of its coasts as the United States has under Democratic rule.

The New York Press on the Blaine Interview and the Cleveland Message.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—In commenting on Mr. Blaine's interview, the *Times* says: "This, then, is the Republican party and policy, and as he is the leader of the Republican party at present, it must be taken as the policy of the Republicans until they repudiate it.

"It would be well for them to hasten to do so.

"It is not a policy they can go before the people with. There is too much common sense and too much every day old-fashioned honesty in the United States yet for the voters to be trapped by so reckless, so shallow and dangerous a scheme as sails.

"They know that they are enormously overtaxed.

"They know that the surplus taxes are a constantly increasing peril to their business, and a steady, heavier drain on their resources.

"They will not follow the leader who would tax them only to squander, and who would throw their money out of the treasury window rather than lift the most onerous of the tariff duties on the materials of American industry."

The *Tribune* says: "Mr. Blaine in Europe speaks as an American.

"Mr. Cleveland, in America, speaks as a British manufacturer, anxious to be admitted without any charge to a share of the best and larges market in the world.

"Americans who make that market, are taxed to maintain self government, in the nation, the states, the counties, the cities and towns and especially in the school districts where competent American voters for the future are trained.

"Without contributing a cent to these expenditures British manufacturers want to share in that market and to break down American industries by their competition, their large capital and their unpaid labor.

"Mr. Cleveland appears as the attorney for the British interest in this controversy, and his words moved Mr. Blaine to an indignant protest."

The *World* says: "The Maine statesman's interview is, in fact, a proclamation that Mr. Blaine considers himself to be the chosen champion of protection, and that he is ready to enter the Presidential lists again as such."

"The fact that Mr. Blaine had not read the full text of the Presidents message must serve as his excuse for misrepresenting its purport. * * * * Mr. Blaine is behind the times on this question. The people of this country are bent upon stopping the surplus instead of squandering or 'dividing' it.

"They believe that the only honest place, as well as the best place, for every dollar not needed for the legitimate expenses of the government is in the pocket of the man who earns it.

"President Cleveland stands for this purpose, Mr. Blaine comes forward as the champion of the opposite idea. The Democratic party could not ask for a better issue."

The *Sun* says: "If Brother Blaine entertains such loose notions of the relations between the federal government and the states it strikes us that he would be a conspicuously unfit person to trust with the management of the nation's financial affairs."

The Chicago *Tribune* this morning, commenting editorially on Mr. Blaine's reply to President Cleveland's message, says: "Mr. Blaine, as might have been expected, has presented high tariff protection, from a partisan point of view, as an opposition issue to the President's views on tariff reduction. We have a long and apparently very pleasant winter before us in which to discuss this question, and it is a question which must be settled upon its merits and not upon political consternation. So far as Mr. Blaine would have it appear as a party issue he will fail. * * * * It is a sufficient explanation of Mr. Blaine's interview that he is a Pennsylvanian.

"He was brought up in an atmosphere of ultra-protection. He has sat at the feet of the high-tariff rulers of that state and imbibed their doctrines. Like all Pennsylvanians—Republicans or Democrats—he believes in enormous duties on imports, for the purpose of coddling the mill bosses and protecting the so-called 'infant industries,' which long ago came of age, and ought to be able to go alone.

"Every Pennsylvanian believes that the protective system promotes his interests, and, in promoting his interests, it enhances the good of the general public. * * *

"It is almost needless to say that Mr. Blaine, as well as other Pennsylvania Republicans, in taking this position makes no account of the precedents of 1857, of 1882-83, or of the platform of 1884, which explicitly declares: 'The Republican party pledges itself to correct the irregularities of the tariff and to reduce the surplus.'

"They even fought the small reductions of 1883. The Blaine interview will have to stand upon its merits and will be endorsed or condemned in accordance with the value of the arguments set forth, and the public judgments will not be influenced by the distinguished name behind them.

"It is the weakest ground Mr. Blaine has ever yet occupied, and no national party can expect to go into a presidential campaign on that issue, no matter who may be its leader, and win.

"It is a position of direct hostility to the report of the tariff commission and to the Republican platform of 1884.

"Upon this question, therefore, we beg leave to differ from Mr. Blaine as he differs from us. Freely acknowledging his right to his belief, we claim the same right as such, and wish to state our belief that in leading the colors of the coddled state of Pennsylvania with his lieutenants, Randall, Riley, Cameron and McPherson, he will find that Pennsylvania is but one state and that there is a large army outside its borders who do not propose to be levied upon any longer for its benefit.

"The surplus question must be settled in some way and in a different way from what it has been settled. It cannot be settled in accordance with the Blaine idea.

A KEY NOTE.

Protection to the American Workmen—The National Republican Committee.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—The Republican National committee was called to order at 11 o'clock this morning, in room 150 of the Arlington Hotel, by B. F. Jones, of Pennsylvania, its chairman. Samuel Fessenden, of Connecticut, acting as secretary. In a brief speech, Chairman Jones stated the object of the meeting as follows:

"GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE:—As stated in the call this meeting is for the purpose of selecting a time and place for holding the next Republican National convention; also to consider such other matters as may properly be brought before it.

"As everything connected, however remotely with the government of this great country, is important our action to-day may have far reaching results.

"We should, therefore, carefully consider such subjects as may be brought before us that we may decide wisely. We may congratulate ourselves on the improved prospects of Republican party since the national committee met in this city four years ago for the same purpose that we are now assempled.

"At that time the majority against the Republican party in the North at the last preceding general state elections counted up into the hundreds of thousands.

"The great states of New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio had Democratic governors, New York's elected by nearly 200,000 plurality, which was reduced for the same candidate in the Presidential election to less than 1,100.

"Though by accident the Democratic party have the Presidency and the prestige of success, the signs are auspicious for the election of a Republican President in 1888.

"The momentum acquired by 25 years of the prevalence of Republican principles has not yet lost its force, and the material interests of the country are still prosperous as the result of Republican industrial legislation.

"Recent utterances, however, indicate a determination to end this prosperity by adverse legislation, forced upon the country by an administration hostile to American industry, and also indicate the necessity of the return to power of the Republican party in the National government so that American industry, wool growing and sugar raising, equally with iron making and textile production, may have continued prosperity and the employes in these industries constant employment and continued good wages, such as American workmen should receive."

The roll was then called and every state and territory, with one or two exceptions, was represented by a delegate or a proxy.

Representatives of the different vocations for the national convention then advocated their claims.

THE REPUBLICAN CALL.

Voters of all Parties to Rally for the Great Battle of Protection to American Workingmen.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10—The following call for the next National Republican convention has been issued by the National Republican committee:

"To the Republican Electors of the United States:

"Republican electors in the several states and voters without regard to past political affiliation, difference or action, who believe in the American principle of a protective tariff for the defence and encouragement of home industries and the elevation of home labor; who would reduce the national taxes and prevent the accumulation of a surplus in the treasury in harmony with this principle; who are opposed to the attempt, now more openly avowed than ever before, to establish a policy which would strike down American labor to the level of the underpaid, oppressed work of foreign lands; who favor a system of naval coast defences which will enable the United States to conduct its international negotiations with self-respect; who gratefully cherish the defenders of our country who squandered and resent the continued and unjust exclusion of our rapidly growing territories, which have an indisputable title to admission into the sisterhood of states; who are in favor of free schools, popular education, a free, honest ballot, a fair count, the protection of every citizen of the United States in his legal rights at home and abroad, a foreign policy that shall extend our trade and commerce to every land and clime, and shall properly support the dignity of the nation and the promotion of friendly, harmonious relations and intercourse between all the states, are cordially invited to unite under this call in the formation of a national ticket.

"Each state will be entitled to four delegates-at-large and for each representative-at-large two delegates, and congressional district, each territory and the District of Columbia to two delegates."

CLEVELAND A PLAGIARIST.

His Message a Reproduction of Judge Church's Stump Speeches in the Times of Clay and Polk.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—The venerable ex-Judge Noah Davis, in writing to a friend here, has furnished material for Washington gossips. On the President's message he says:

"I was delighted to see the President's message, as I always am to meet an old acquaintance. If it were not indecorous to accuse the President of plagiarism I should say he had borrowed the message from the stump speech which the late Chief Justice Church, while the leader of the Democracy in Western New York, was accustomed to make during the contest between Clay and Polk.

"With the exception of the internal revenue taxation which he also opposed there is not a difference of idea and very little of language between the message and the stump speech. By this message the President has given to the country an issue between free trade and protection of American industry which can no longer be shirked by his party.

"He emphasized it also by making it the sole subject of his message. Therein he will find that he has made a grave mistake. He confines himself to the single proposition whether the country will maintain a system which protects its great industries and secures the home market for its products, or will abandon that system and turn over its manufactures to foreign countries."

NATIONAL POLITICS.

Discussing the Make-Up of the Various Committees—Randall's Bill.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—When the selection of Mr. W. L. Scott, of Erie, for the chairmanship of the Ways and Means committee was first spoken of as a probability, it was laughed at by nearly everyone.

To-day there seems to be more confidence in the report, and the only objection raised is that it would not be right to give the two big committees to Pennsylvania; for, of course, Randall will get the Appropriations committee.

It is stated that the President has intimated a desire to see Scott at the head of the Ways and Means committee, as the Erie man's tariff views concur with his own.

RANDALL'S TARIFF SCHEME.

Mr. Randall is preparing a revenue reduction bill which he will introduce at an early day. It will reduce the revenue about $60,000,000, repealing the tobacco tax and the tax on spirits not used for drinking, and readjusts the tariff, placing many articles on the free list, and omitting any reduction of the sugar tariff.

PRESIDENTIAL BEES.

The presence this week of the Republican National committee revives the gossip and speculations about the coming Presidential fight. Presidential candidates are thick in the vicinity now, and they have been watching round the corners with a good deal of interest while the committee has been at work.

Of course the National committee members do not express their preference very pointedly, yet, as a whole, it is easy to see how that the choice is between Blaine and Sherman. Should the fight grow hot between them it is thought that a new man, such as Allison or Lincoln, might get away with the prize.

On the Democratic side there seems to be a perfect unity as to the Presidential nomination. One hears nobody except Cleveland mentioned. It seems to be a foregone conclusion that he is to be the nominee.

As to the second man on the ticket opinions are divided between Vilas and Black. On the whole Black seems to be the more "taking" candidate. He has boomed the work of the Pension Bureau so thoroughly and has so much in his war record and wounds to strengthen him with the soldiers, that he seems to be the coming man.

CONGRESS.

The Senate Holds a Brief Session—Waiting for Committee Appointments.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—After the presentation of various communications from heads of departments and the Court of Claims, Mr. Cullom remarked that the rule was, when bills are introduced that committees are appointed to have such bills laid on the table and that created unnecessary work. He therefore moved the Senate adjourn, but he with-drew the motion temporarily to permit Mr. Plumb to offer a resolution calling on the commissioner of agriculture for information as to whether any person in the employ of the bureau is conducting, making experiments as to the manufacture of sugar from sorghum, had obtained or applied for a patent or patents connected with such manufacture and growing out of such experiment. The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Farwell asked his colleague to withdraw his motion, so as to allow him to introduce a bill to perpetuate the national bank system.

Mr. Cullom declined, and at 12:20 the Senate adjourned.

Both Houses Adjourn Until Monday—Routine Work Accomplished.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—After the reading of the journal and the presentation of a few department communications, the Senate, on motion of Mr. Farwell, adjourned till Monday.

The House adjourned at 12:20 until Monday, after the introduction of a few resolutions relating to the amendment of the rules.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—After the presentation of a large number of petitions, Mr. Morrill, from the committee on Finance, reported back the Senate bill to credit and pay to the several states and territories, and to the District of Columbia, all moneys collected under the direct tax act of the 5th of August, 1861.

Mr. Ingalls introduced bills to remove the limitation in payment of arrears of pensions; granting arrears in certain cases to those pensioned by special acts of Congress.

Other bills were introduced, among them the following:

By Mr. Sherman—For the preservation of the woods and forests adjacent to the sources of navigable rivers and their affluents.

By Mr. Hoar—Constitutional amendment for extension of the Congressional term till the last Tuesday in April.

By Mr. Cullom—To amend the inter-state commerce act. Adjourned.

Faulkner Gets His Seat.

The Senate committee on Privileges and Elections has decided unanimously to seat Faulkner, of West Virginia.

THE HOUSE.

Mr. Carlisle Asks the House to Elect the Committee on Elections.

A number of executive communications, principally relating to private land claims in New Mexico, were laid before the House by the speaker and appropriately referred.

Mr. Springer, of Illinois, presented the petition of Owen G. Chase, who claims to be elected delegate from the territory of Cimarron, commonly known as the "public land strip."

Speaker Carlisle, having left the chair came having called upon Mr. Crisp to preside, briefly requested the House to relieve him of the responsibility of appointing the committee on Elections. He said that the early selection of the committee by the House would greatly facilitate the appointment of other committees.

A resolution was adopted providing that the House will to-morrow proceed to the election of a committee on Elections, and the House then adjourned.

Committee on Elections Elected and an Adjournment Taken Until Friday.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—A large number of executive communications were laid before the House by the Speaker and appropriately referred; and then at 12:10 the House took a recess until 1 o'clock.

After the recess, Speaker Carlisle having called Mr. Mills, of Texas, to the chair, Mr. Connor, of Illinois, offered a resolution declaring that the following named gentlemen shall constitute the committee on Elections: Messrs. Crisp, (chairman), O'Ferrell, Outhwaite, Barry, Maish, Heard, Johnson, (of North Carolina), O'Neill, (of Indiana), Moore, Rowell, Houke, Cooper, Lyman, Johnson, (of Indiana), and Lodge.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

The speaker, having resumed the chair, directed that all papers in the various contested election cases be referred to the committee just elected, and the House at 1:10 adjourned until Friday.

G. A. R. ENCAMPMENT.

The Second Week in September Next Chosen as the Time.

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 9.—The executive committee of the council of administration of the Grand Army of the Republic has decided to hold the next national grand encampment here in the second week in September next.

COMPARATIVE WORTH OF BAKING POWDERS.

ROYAL (Absolutely Pure)
GRANT'S (Alum Powder) *
RUMFORD'S, when fresh
HANFORD'S, when fresh
REDHEAD'S
CHARM (Alum Powder) *
AMAZON (Alum Powder) *
CLEVELAND'S (short wt. 4 oz.)
PIONEER (San Francisco)
CZAR
DR. PRICE'S
SNOW FLAKE (Groff's)
LEWIS'
PEARL (Andrews & Co.)
HECKER'S
GILLET'S
ANDREWS & CO. "Regal" * (Milwaukee, Contains Alum.)
BULK (Powder sold loose)
RUMFORD'S, when not fresh

REPORTS OF GOVERNMENT CHEMISTS

As to Purity and Wholesomeness of the Royal Baking Powder.

"I have tested a package of Royal Baking Powder, which I purchased in the open market, and find it composed of pure and wholesome ingredients. It is a cream of tartar powder of a high degree of merit, and does not contain either alum or phosphates, or other injurious substances. E. G. LOVE, Ph.D."

"It is a scientific fact that the Royal Baking Powder is absolutely pure. "H. A. MOTT, Ph.D."

"I have examined a package of Royal Baking Powder, purchased by myself in the market. I find it entirely free from alum, terra alba, or any other injurious substance. HENRY MORTON, Ph.D., President of Stevens Institute of Technology."

"I have analyzed a package of Royal Baking Powder. The materials of which it is composed are pure and wholesome. S. DANA HAYES, State Assayer, Mass."

The Royal Baking Powder received the highest award over all competitors at the Vienna World's Exposition, 1873; at the Centennial, Philadelphia, 1876; at the American Institute, New York, and at State Fairs throughout the country.

No other article of human food has ever received such high, emphatic, and universal endorsement from eminent chemists, physicians, scientists, and Boards of Health all over the world.

NOTE—The above DIAGRAM illustrates the comparative worth of various Baking Powders, as shown by Chemical Analysis and experiments made by Prof. Schedler. A pound can of each powder was taken, the total leavening power or volume in each can calculated, the result being as indicated. This practical test for worth by Prof. Schedler only proves what every observant consumer of the Royal Baking Powder knows by practical experience, that, while it costs a few cents per pound more than ordinary kinds, it is far more economical, and, besides, affords the advantage of better work. A single trial of the Royal Baking Powder will convince any fair minded person of these facts.

* While the diagram shows some of the alum powders to be of a higher degree of strength than other powders ranked below them, it is not to be taken as indicating that they have any value. All alum powders, no matter how high their strength, are to be avoided as dangerous.

BUSINESS BAROMETER.

The Convening of Congress and the Free Trade Message has Made Markets Unsteady.

NEW YORK, Dec. 10.—R. G. Dun & Co. in their weekly review of trade say: Legitimate trade continues fairly active for the season, though embarrassed in some branches by fluctuations in the speculative markets. Speculation in the products after a few days of wild advance, has taken a turn downward, as the natural result of the enormous sales to realize.

With the rapidly expanding currency, money is generally easier than a week ago, although rates are still high at many points. Complaints of slow collections do not diminish.

The agitation of the tariff question is already beginning to cause a revision calculation for the future in some departments.

A sharp decline in real estate speculations, and prices flat in some southern and western points, tends to check developments there, and subjects investors to some financial strain.

Large sales of Bessemer iron at $18.50 are reported, and a sale of steel rails netting $38 at the mill is also made. Buyers are still in the background, but some brokers openly offer below $32.

Coal has declined about $1, with orders slacking.

Woolens do not improve in demand, and heavy goods open in some cases below last year's prices, so that manufacturers are encouraged to increase their purchases of raw wool, which appears rather weaker.

Raw cotton has declined ⅛c, but goods are held at recent advances.

The boot and shoe trade is large and promising, with exceptionally good payments and cheaper material. But there is complaint that competition cuts prices down too low.

Leather is weaker.

The movement of freight westward shows an increase of 15,000 tons for November. Eastbound shipments are increasing. Bank exchanges of all cities outside of New York begin to fall below those of last year. The decline at all points last week was 14.33 per cent., and outside New York 2.6 per cent.

At most of the interior points trade reported for the season is fair, but collections are slow at Detroit, fair at Memphis and Ohio towns and rather better at Kansas City.

Money at Chicago is in unabated demand at 7 per cent. Operators bid 8 per cent. for funds to carry products at interior towns.

Though the money markets are on the whole easier the pressure at speculative centers continues. Stocks have been weaker since congress met as frequently happens.

Wheat speculation reached 105,000,000 bushels for the week, prices advanced sharply only to close a shade lower than a week ago.

Corn and oats, in spite of the recent reaction, gain 3 and 1½ cents respectively, for the week. Oil is unchanged. Coffee has advanced ½ cent and the excitement in minor metals has lifted copper 1¼ and tin nearly 1 cent per pound, but a reaction in pork products makes prices a little lower than a week ago.

The average rise in the hog products since July 1 was a shade over 20 per cent. on Tuesday, and it is a question whether the legitimate effect of a partial failure of crops has not been fully realized in the prices. But the increasing supply of currency still tends to keep speculation active.

Business failures during the last seven days number for the United States 226, Canada 28, total 254; compared with 244 last week and 274 the corresponding week of last year.

THE SEVEN CORN STATES.

Husking Proves that the Former Estimates were Too High.

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—The *Farmers' Review* says: Our late reports upon the corn crop, based on the husking now generally completed, show that the estimates of the yield per acre before the husking were generally too high in the great corn states. In answer to a question sent our correspondents, "Does husking show the corn crop better or poorer than the previous estimates?" replies by states have been as follows:

Ohio, 22 counties better than estimates, 17 poorer, 20 about the same.

Indiana—11 counties better than estimated, 29 poorer, 8 about the same. Illinois—13 better, 63 poorer. Missouri—19 better, 22 poorer, 35 about the same. Kansas—3 counties better, 32 poorer. Nebraska—4 counties better, 19 poorer. Wisconsin—9 counties better, 8 poorer, 12 about the same. Minnesota—7 counties better, 15 poorer. Michigan—8 counties better, 10 poorer. Kentucky—7 counties better, 10 poorer.

A comparison of reports of our crop correspondents before husking on the estimated yield per acre in the seven principal corn states, with recent reports of yield as shown by husking, gives the following results:

States.	Before husking. Bushel.	After husking Bushel.
Ohio	29.20	29.00
Indiana	21.66	20.00
Illinois	26.09	23.04
Missouri	27.23	25.03
Iowa	29.87	32.08
Kansas	17.78	18.09
Nebraska	25.42	25.33

MASSACHUSETTS ELECTION.

Seventeen Cities Vote for Municipal Officers—A License Vote.

BOSTON, Dec. 7.—Municipal elections were held yesterday in seventeen cities of the commonwealth, the citizens in each case being given an opportunity of expressing their preferences upon the license question. Interest in the question has been awakened that greatly strengthened during the past few months, and in many cities nominations were made upon this issue rather than upon political preferences. The result follows:

License carried in a majority of the places.

Harris Goldstein, Isaac Wolff and Adolph Silverstein, the latter a New York detective, have been convicted of smuggling tobacco into Liverpool inside of cotton balls are fined $8,000.

SAGINAW VALLEY LUMBER CUT.

Statistics Showing a Steady Decline for the Past Five Years.

EAST SAGINAW, Mich., Dec. 8.—Within a week the grand chorus almost uninterruptedly sung by a thousand saws on the Saginaw river, has ceased, and mill men generally have had a successful summer's work.

There has been harmony between employers and employes. Prices received for manufactured products have been satisfactory, and wages fully up to the average. Very few accidents have occurred.

The loss of life and five or six trifling injuries make up the casualty record. The lumber market has ruled steady during 1887, prices ranging from $15 to $20 for common and $36 to $38 per thousand for uppers. Statistics of the lumber out of 1887 are not yet all in.

The estimates, we place the cut in round numbers at 714,000,000 feet, showing a steady decline since 1882, when 1,011,275,905 feet were cut. The lumber shipped from Saginaw river ports during the season of navigation of 1887 aggregated 480,011,000 feet, falling short of the shipments for the previous year 120,000,000 feet.

The lumber movement was the smallest since 1878. This is due to increased rail shipments and to a large number of lumber carries going into the ore and grain trade, owing to the high freight rates.

The total shipment of forest products by both water and rail from Saginaw River during the season were: Lumber, 489,011,000 feet; shingles, 86,318,000.

THE WEST PROTESTS.

The Salt Lake Board of Trade Objects to a Reduction of the Tariff.

SALT LAKE, Utah, Dec. 13.—[Special wire.]—The Chamber of Commerce, of Salt Lake City, have adopted the following protest against lead or lead ores:

"*Resolved*, By the Chamber of Commerce of Salt Lake City, that we earnestly protest against any reduction of the existing tariff duties on imported lead or lead ores, as such reduction would ruin thousands of our people, cause the lead and silver mines in this territory worth $50,000,000, and producing $5,500,000 annually, with all the lead dressing and smelting plants, to become total loss; ruin the freight earnings of the Utah railroads 50 per cent; throw a multitude of workingmen out of employment; paralyze our industries and set back the growth of the territory many years.

"There can be no object gained by reducing the duties on the product sufficient to justify so enormous an injury to our people.

"A corresponding injury would by such reduction be inflicted on the people of all the mining states and territories and the destruction of the silver and lead mining and smelting would reduce the annual production of precious metals in the United States fifty million dollars.

"It would also reduce the entire business of the East with the whole mining region, and thus effect the earnings of all the roads of the country."

The board of Directors were authorized to take such action for the protection of industries mentioned as may be deemed necessary.

AN ADDRESS TO THE POPE.

English Catholics Preparing a Document to Present at the Jubilee.

LONDON, Dec. 13.—An address to be signed by many English Catholics will be presented to Mgr. Persico, who was charged by the Pope to make a personal investigation of affairs in Ireland, assuring him of their devotion to the Holy See, and expressing the hope that his mission will result in inducing the Pope to assist in obtaining for Ireland the